

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 95

MONDAY, 13 MARCH 2000

*The House meets this day at 12.30 p.m.*

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**BUSINESS ACCORDED PRIORITY FOR THIS SITTING**

## COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

**Presentation and statements**

- 1 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on infrastructure and development of Australia's regional areas. (*Total time for statements—25 minutes.*)
- 2 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Review of Reserve Bank of Australia annual report for 1998-99. (*Total time for statements—20 minutes.*)

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

**Notices**

- 1 **MRS CROSIO:** To present a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment and administration of a scheme to guarantee the payment of wages and accrued liabilities owed to employees in the event of employer insolvency, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 17 February 2000. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)
- 2 **MR KERR:** To present a Bill for an Act to provide for a civil forfeiture scheme for the proceeds of criminal activity and other related purposes. (*Notice given 17 February 2000. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)
- 3 **MR KERR:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Crime Authority Act 1984* and other related purposes. (*Notice given 17 February 2000. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)
- 4 **MS MACKLIN:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the law in respect of the prohibition of discrimination against pregnant women in the workplace, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 6 March 2000. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)

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

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

†5 **MR ADAMS:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that dumping of cement from Indonesia, China, Malaysia and Thailand is significantly undercutting Australian cement prices;
- (2) notes substantial industry investment and cost cutting has made the Australian cement industry cost competitive, but the companies cannot compete against imports being sold below their cost of manufacture;
- (3) notes dumping is threatening the viability of Australia's cement industry operations, with a real threat of plant closures unless urgent action is taken; and
- (4) calls on the Government to:
  - (a) recognise the threats to the cement industry by dumping;
  - (b) recognise the efforts of the Australian industry to comply with environmental safeguards that the dumping countries are not being made to follow;
  - (c) ensure that immediate action is taken under our current anti-dumping legislation to protect the Australian industry; and
  - (d) take steps to protect all industries that are susceptible to dumping. (*Notice given 25 November 1999. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time.*)

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## GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

### Orders of the day

- 1 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Question—That grievances be noted (*under standing order 106*).
- 2 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (TAX ADMINISTRATION) BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Mr McClelland*).
- 3 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 5) 2000** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2000—Mr Swan*).
- 4 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (EXCISE) LEVIES (GST CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 16 February 2000—Mr Bevis*).
- 5 **CORPORATIONS LAW AMENDMENT (EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Ms Worth*) on the motion of Mr Hockey—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr K. J. Thomson, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the House is of the opinion that the Bill is a most inadequate measure and condemns the Government for its failure to introduce measures to adequately protect employee entitlements”.

- 6 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 10) 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 14 October 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 7 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (GAP COVER SCHEMES) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2000—Ms Macklin*).
- \*8 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Mr Martin*).
- 9 **ROAD TRANSPORT CHARGES (AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2000—Mr O'Connor*).
- 10 **INTERSTATE ROAD TRANSPORT CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2000—Mr O'Connor*).
- 11 **INTERSTATE ROAD TRANSPORT AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2000—Mr O'Connor*).
- \*12 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (FAMILY ASSISTANCE AND RELATED MEASURES) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Mr Martin*).
- 13 **MEDICARE LEVY AMENDMENT (CPI INDEXATION) BILL 1999** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Mr M. J. Evans*).
- 14 **POOLED DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).
- \*15 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (FRINGE BENEFITS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Mr Martin*).
- \*16 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (MEDICARE LEVY SURCHARGE—FRINGE BENEFITS) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Mr Martin*).
- 17 **MEDICARE LEVY AMENDMENT (DEFENCE—EAST TIMOR LEVY) BILL 2000** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2000—Mr Swan*).
- 18 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1999-2000** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Mr Murphy, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Fahey—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Tanner, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not denying the Bill a second reading, the House condemns:*

- (1) the Government for its abdication of Commonwealth responsibility for appropriate national funding of health, education and other essential community services;
  - (2) the recent statements by the Prime Minister indicating that Specific Purpose Payments to the States will be reduced as part of the introduction of the new tax system, breaking both his promise to the Australian people and to State and Territory leaders; and
  - (3) the Government's failure to abide by the independent arbitration process regarding the indexation of the Australian Health Care Agreement's payments to the States for public hospitals.”.
- 19 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 1999-2000** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).
- 20 **FISHERIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).
- 21 **ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS (EFFECT OF INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*).
- 22 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1999** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 23 **HEALTH INSURANCE (APPROVED PATHOLOGY SPECIMEN COLLECTION CENTRES) TAX BILL 1999** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 24 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (MORAL RIGHTS) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).
- 25 **BROADCASTING SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Mr M. J. Evans*).
- 26 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (NUMBERING CHARGES) AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Mr M. J. Evans*).
- 27 **TRANSPORT AND TERRITORIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).
- 28 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 11) 1999** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1999—Mr M. J. Evans*).
- 29 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (THEFT, FRAUD, BRIBERY AND RELATED OFFENCES) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1999—Mr Horne*).

- 30 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).
- 31 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (DIGITAL AGENDA) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 2 September 1999—Mr M. J. Evans*).
- 32 **FAMILY LAW AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 22 September 1999—Mr Horne*).
- 33 **AVIATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2000—Mr O'Connor*).
- 34 **JURISDICTION OF COURTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2000—Mr O'Connor*).
- \*35 **ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 9 March 2000*).
- \*36 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Mr Martin*).
- \*37 **THERAPEUTIC GOODS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000** (*Minister for Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2000—Mr Martin*).
- 38 **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*).
- 39 **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*).
- 40 **PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 June 1999*).
- \*41 **CLASSIFICATION (PUBLICATIONS, FILMS AND COMPUTER GAMES) AMENDMENT BILL 1998**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 9 March 2000*).
- 42 **ADELAIDE AIRPORT CURFEW BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 17 February 2000*).
- 43 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 8) 1999**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 293 (*from 15 February 2000*).
- 44 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendment (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 45 **CUSTOMS AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 46 **NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) BILL 1998**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 8 March 2000*).

- 47 **ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 309 (from 7 March 2000).
- 48 **CENSURE OF MINISTER FOR FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 183 (from 24 August 1999).
- 49 **GEELONG ROAD:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 171 (from 12 August 1999).
- 50 **CENTRELINK—LEVEL OF SERVICE:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 45 (from 10 March 1999).
- 51 **CENTRELINK:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (from 12 November 1998).
- 52 **DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 8 March 2000—Mr Lee) on the motion of Mr Fahey—That the House take note of the paper.
- 53 **UN CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 7 March 2000—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 54 **MEDIBANK PRIVATE—EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND EQUITY AND DIVERSITY—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 17 February 2000—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 55 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE—REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN 1997-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 16 February 2000—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **AUSTRALIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 9 December 1999—Mr Brereton) on the motion of Mr Downer—That the House take note of the paper.
- 57 **UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 9 December 1999—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Ms Worth—That the House take note of the paper.
- 58 **SEATTLE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION MEETING AND LAUSANNE INFORMAL TRADE MINISTERS MEETING—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 8 December 1999—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr M. A. J. Vaile—That the House take note of the paper.
- 59 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—DECLARATION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 8 December 1999—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—CONVENTION 181—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 8 December 1999—

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

- 61 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—RECOMMENDATION 188—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 62 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—RECOMMENDATION 189—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 63 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—INSTRUMENTS—JUNE 1998—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 64 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—INSTRUMENTS—JUNE 1997—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 65 **MID-TERM REVIEW OF PROVIDER NUMBER LEGISLATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 66 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND WELFARE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 25 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 67 **EAST TIMOR—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr Williams*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 68 **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REVIEW—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 69 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 70 **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES REGULATORY AUTHORITY—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 71 **DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 72 **DEFENCE FORCE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 73 **SEAFARERS SAFETY, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION AUTHORITY—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 74 **HEALTH SERVICES AUSTRALIA—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 75 **ADVISORY PANEL ON THE MARKETING IN AUSTRALIA OF INFANT FORMULA—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 76 **AUSTRALIAN HEARING SERVICES—REPORT FOR 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 77 **COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE USE OF THE TERM ‘DRUG FREE’—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 1 September 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 78 **HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 25 August 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 79 **AUSTRALIAN LAW REFORM COMMISSION—REPORT ON REVIEW OF THE PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT 1987—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 June 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 80 **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT—REPORT FOR 1997-98—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.
- 81 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Anthony*):  
Customs Tariff Proposal No. 8 (1999)—*moved 24 November 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Home*).  
Excise Tariff Proposal No. 3 (1999)—*moved 24 November 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Home*).
- 82 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr McGauran*):  
Customs Tariff Proposal No. 6 (1999)—*moved 21 October 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Swan*).  
Excise Tariff Proposal No. 2 (1999)—*moved 21 October 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Swan*).



**83 TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Williams*):

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 4 (1999)—*moved 2 September 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr M. J. Evans*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 5 (1999)—*moved 22 September 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Horne*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 7 (1999)—*moved 8 December 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr McClelland*).

**84 TARIFF PROPOSAL** (*Mr Entsch*):

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 3 (1999)—*moved 25 August 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr McClelland*).

**85 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*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 2 (1999)—*moved 11 May 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr McMullan*).

Excise Tariff Proposal No. 1 (1999)—*moved 11 May 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr McMullan*).

\*Customs Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2000)—*moved 9 March 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Martin*).

**86 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.

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**COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS—*continued***
**Orders of the day**

- 1 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REVIEW OF RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 1997-98—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate

(from 23 August 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 13 March 2000.*)

- 2 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING CONVENTION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 23 August 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 13 March 2000*)
- 3 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SEMINAR ON ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN TREATY MAKING—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 30 August 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 the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000*)
- 4 **NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1997-98—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 1 September 1999—Mr Snowdon, in continuation) on the motion of Mr Snowdon—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)
- 5 **NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—INTERIM REPORT ON S.206(D) INQUIRY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 13 October 1999—Mr Snowdon, in continuation) on the motion of Mr Snowdon—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 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 6 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S AUDIT REPORTS 1998-99 FIRST HALF—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 20 October 1999—Mr Charles, in continuation) on the motion of Mr Charles—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 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 7 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS OF A SEMINAR ON WORLD DEBT, 27 AUGUST 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 6 December 1999—Mr Hollis, in continuation) on the motion of Mr Hollis—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 13 March 2000*)
- 8 **LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—ADVISORY REPORT ON THE COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (DIGITAL AGENDA) BILL 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (from 6 December 1999—Mr K. J. Andrews, in continuation) on the motion of Mr K. J. Andrews—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 13 March 2000)*

- 9 **NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY IN CONTROLLED OPERATIONS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 1999—Mr Nugent, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Nugent—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 13 March 2000*)
- 10 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON TERMINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM AND INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 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 13 March 2000*)
- 11 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON FOURTEEN TREATIES TABLED ON 12 OCTOBER 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 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 13 March 2000*)
- 12 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S AUDIT REPORTS 1997-98 FOURTH QUARTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr Charles, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Charles—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 13 March 2000.*)
- 13 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 February 2000—Mr Charles, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Charles—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 13 March 2000.*)
- 14 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON VISIT TO EAST TIMOR, 2 DECEMBER 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2000—Mr Hollis, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hollis—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 13 March 2000*)
- 15 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SINGAPORE'S USE OF SHOALWATER BAY, DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH PNG AND PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS—MOTION TO TAKE**

**NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2000—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-recorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

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## **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—*continued***

### **Notice given for Monday, 13 March 2000**

\*1 **MR CAMERON:** To move—That the House:

- (1) recognises the debt we owe to those entrepreneurial publishers who have built Australia's thriving, free and independent press which is the envy of the world;
  - (2) upholds, to the greatest extent consistent with the laws of decency and libel, the unfettered right to freedom of speech and freedom of opinion upon which our vigorous democracy is built;
  - (3) recognises, nonetheless, that the high concentration of media ownership, and the diversity of commercial interests among the few media players, creates potential for conflicts of interest in reporting of news, opinion and current affairs;
  - (4) notes, in the interests of transparency, the decision of the Australian Broadcasting Authority to require current affairs radio programs to disclose the previously unnamed commercial sponsors of the broadcaster; and
  - (5) resolves to find simple, enforceable means by which print journalists, radio broadcasters and television news and current affairs reporters, can declare their personal financial interests, and those of their employers, in the issues about which they provide media comment. (*Notice given 9 March 2000.*)
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### **Notices—*continued***

1 **MR MARTIN:** To move—That the House:

- (1) notes the extreme hardship that will be caused to Australia's Defence Force personnel as a result of the new fringe benefits tax (FBT) reporting regime put in place as part of the Government's new tax system;
- (2) notes that the Government has decided to only exempt a few of the fringe benefits and allowances that Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel receive from the new FBT reporting regime;
- (3) notes the unique and harsh conditions that ADF personnel work under and the fact that the ADF is not an ordinary workforce and has never been treated that way by previous governments; and
- (4) calls on the Government to recognise the unique status of the ADF and to therefore exempt all ADF personnel from FBT reporting requirements in respect of the conditions and benefits they receive because of their service in

the armed forces. (*Notice given 24 August 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on 13 March 2000.*)

2 **MR ANDREN:** To move—That the House:

- (1) notes the report of the National Inquiry into Children and the Legal Process in 1997 entitled “Seen and Heard”, undertaken jointly by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and the Australian Law Reform Commission, and its recommendation that Federal legislation be enacted to prohibit the mandatory detention of juvenile offenders;
- (2) notes the 1998 report of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties into the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which was critical of mandatory sentencing;
- (3) further notes the introduction of a private Senator’s bill entitled Human Rights (Mandatory Sentencing of Juvenile Offenders) Bill 1999, and its planned reference to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for a public inquiry; and
- (4) calls on the Government to support the Senate inquiry and to ensure that Australia meets its stated human rights obligations. (*Notice given 24 August 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on 13 March 2000.*)

3 **MR BEAZLEY:** To move—That:

- (1) recalling the Australian people’s overwhelming decision in the 1967 Referendum to confer upon the Commonwealth Parliament responsibility for enhancement of the rights and well being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people;
- (2) reaffirming the abhorrence of racism shared by the Australian people and their Federal and State Governments;
- (3) reaffirming Australia’s recognition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the International Convention on the Prevention of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- (4) recalling the Parliament’s commitment in October 1996 to the principles of racial tolerance; and;
- (5) recognising the profound economic and social disadvantage suffered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—

this House:

- (a) affirms that the tabling of “Bringing them Home”, the Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families, presents the nation with an unprecedented historical opportunity to render justice and restitution to Indigenous Australians, for the good of all Australians;
- (b) acknowledges the immense trauma inflicted upon the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia as a result of the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families under past government policies in place from before the time of Federation until the early 1900s;

- (c) affirms that these racially discriminatory policies and their continuing consequences are a matter of national shame;
  - (d) affirms that current and future Federal and State governments are responsible for assisting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to rectify the ongoing effects of those policies;
  - (e) affirms its commitment to a just and proper settlement of the grievances of people adversely affected by those policies; and
- on behalf of the nation—
- (f) unreservedly apologises to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians for the separation policies;
  - (g) calls upon Federal and State Governments to establish, in consultation with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, appropriate processes to provide compensation and restitution, including assistance for the reunification of families and counselling services;
  - (h) calls on the Federal and State Governments to establish appropriate education programs to enhance community awareness of the history and continuing consequences of past practices and policies of racial discrimination; and
  - (i) calls upon the Federal Government to declare a National Day in recognition and remembrance of the great suffering which flowed from the separation policies, and to affirm our nation's commitment to justice for Indigenous Australians, today and for the future. (*Notice given 25 August 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on 13 March 2000.*)
- 4 **MR MELHAM:** To move—That this House, noting the desire of the Australian community to satisfactorily resolve outstanding issues concerning the stolen generation referred to in the recommendations of the report of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission entitled *Bringing Them Home*, calls on the Government to:
- (1) settle the stolen generation case currently before the federal court in the Northern Territory; and
  - (2) following consultation and agreement with appropriate representatives of the Stolen Generation, to:
    - (a) establish an alternate dispute resolution tribunal to assist members of the Stolen Generations by resolving claims for compensation:
      - (i) through consultation, conciliation and negotiation, rather than adversarial litigation; and
      - (ii) where appropriate and agreed to, deliver alternate forms of restitution; and
    - (b) set up processes and mechanisms which are adequately funded to:
      - (i) provide counselling;
      - (ii) record their testimonies;
      - (iii) educate Australians about their history and current plight;
      - (iv) help them to establish their ancestry and to access family reunion services; and

- (v) help them to re-establish or re-build their links to their culture, language and history. (*Notice given 31 August 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)

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

- (1) expresses its concern regarding the aims and content of Migration Series Instruments (MSI) 244, which permits the transfer of asylum seekers from Migration Detention Centres to State prisons, where they are then held without charges or court proceedings;
- (2) recognises that the actions permitted under MSI-244 constitute an arbitrary executive imprisonment of people, of the kind which Australia has condemned when it occurs in other countries;
- (3) recognises the concerns expressed by the Commonwealth Ombudsman, Amnesty International, the Refugee Council of Australia, the Human Rights Commissioner and others, concerning the arbitrary powers of imprisonment given to immigration officers and detention centre officials under MSI-244;
- (4) notes that MSI-244 itself states that “there is no clear statutory basis for the selective transfer of detainees” to a State prison, and that this specific provision has never been approved by Parliament; and
- (5) calls upon the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs to immediately withdraw MSI-244 and draft a new MSI, that only allows transfers of refugees claimants to State prison in circumstances when they are being charged with an offence under a State or Commonwealth law, other than breach of migration visa laws). (*Notice given 1 September 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)

**6 MS HALL:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the progress that has been made by the States in moving towards truth in labelling for the egg industry;
- (2) requests the Commonwealth to show leadership and further facilitate all the States adopting national labelling standards; and
- (3) supports the phasing out of the practice of intense battery hen and egg farming. (*Notice given 1 September 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)

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

- (1) supports the United Nations Organisation of African Unity Referendum for the Western Sahara;
- (2) applauds the efforts of the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and his special envoy for Western Sahara Mr James Baker to ensure that a free and fair Referendum is held in Western Sahara to allow its people to exercise their right to self-determination; and
- (3) calls on the Government to reintroduce its contingent to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). (*Notice given*

*21 September 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.)*

**8 MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To move—That the House:

- (1) welcomes the UN-OAU progress in the organisation of a free and fair referendum in Western Sahara, to enable its people to exercise their right to self-determination;
- (2) calls upon Morocco to fully cooperate with the UN-OAU and abide by the agreements and UN resolutions setting the referendum date for 31 July 2000
- (3) urges the Government to extend all its assistance to the UN mission for Western Sahara (MINURSO); and
- (3) establish official contacts with the Sahrawi Independence movement the Polisario. *(Notice given 28 September 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.)*

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

- (1) notes that the report “Going for Gold Immigration Entry Arrangements for the Olympic and Paralympic Games” by the Joint Standing Committee on Migration, has made significant criticism of the visitor visa system and has warned of the potential embarrassment that this will create during the Sydney Olympic Games;
- (2) notes that the Committee believes “that the higher refusal rates in some countries, and the difference between the ETA and non-ETA countries could produce embarrassing publicity detrimental to Australia’s international image”;
- (3) notes that the representatives of the tourism industry and other witnesses believe that the system is highly intrusive for those applying from non-ETA countries, in so far as applicants are required to give many assurances and much information—far in excess of what is necessary for a tourist visa;
- (4) notes that the Report confirms that those applying under the non-ETA (a system mostly from third world countries) system was subject to a much higher rejection rate for visitor visas and that the system is widely perceived as highly discriminatory—these aspects of the system have been admitted by the Minister and his Department;
- (5) notes that the Committee further recommended “That an independent review analyses the effect of the visa application fee on applications and the effect on Australia’s image as a potential tourist destination”;
- (6) calls upon the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs and the Government to totally overhaul the current discredited visitor visa process and to develop as a matter of urgency in the lead up to the Olympic Games, a fairer non-discriminatory system. *(Notice given 29 September 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.)*

**10 MR WILTON:** To move—That the House recognises the importance of airports to the economic development of Australia. *(Notice given 30 September 1999; amended 18 February 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.)*



- 11 **MR ALBANESE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) applauds the actions of South Sydney rugby league supporters in demonstrating their support for South Sydney to remain in the National Rugby League competition;
  - (2) notes that South Sydney are financially sound, have superb facilities at the Sydney Football Stadium, have an enormous support base and an outstanding junior team development structure;
  - (3) notes that to abandon any sense of history, spirit and community involvement will destroy rugby league;
  - (4) recognises that local institutions play a central role in defining a sense of community and giving our youth role models to aspire to; and
  - (5) calls on the National Rugby League to include South Sydney in any future competition. (*Notice given 11 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 12 **MR DANBY:** To move—That this House notes the failure of the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business to ensure the passing on of the benefits of increased waterfront productivity to Australian importers, exporters and consumers despite a \$250m taxpayer subsidy which appears to have merely provided increased profits to Lang Corporation and Patricks with a subsequent increase in their share prices. (*Notice given 18 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 13 **MR PRICE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) congratulates Dr Allan Hawke on his appointment as the new Secretary of the Department of Defence;
  - (2) notes his prior service with the Department as Deputy Secretary and his wide public service experience;
  - (3) wishes him well in tackling the severe morale problem in the Department; and
  - (4) trusts he will be able to finalise the Prime Minister's report into the Reserves, clear up rotation issues surrounding the deployment of troops to East Timor and supervise the new strategic review. (*Notice given 19 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 14 **MR HARDGRAVE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) expresses its concern for the return of hostilities between Ethiopia and the State of Eritrea;
  - (2) acknowledges attempts by the Organisation of African Unity, the United States, various African heads of state and the United Nations to restore peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea;
  - (3) expresses great concern for the reported deaths of thousands of people in the past eighteen months and for the suffering of tens of thousands more;
  - (4) acknowledges the need expressed by the Eritrean Government for the return of foreign humanitarian NGO groups to provide relief; and

- (5) highlights the past efforts of Australians, such as Fred Hollows, to help the people of Eritrea. (*Notice given 20 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

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

- (1) notes that families are the smallest social group and are often underrated;
- (2) believes the productive work of households has been totally overlooked;
- (3) acknowledges that surveys have made visible the unpaid work of households and have found it comprises more than half of all valuable economic activity;
- (4) expresses concern that the tax system does not adequately protect the income of families rearing children and the economic system appears to have forgotten the value of the work of parents rearing children and the whole area of productive work in the household;
- (5) supports the view that most parents, regardless of social status, educational level or cultural background, are eager to receive and can benefit from information and support in their role as their children's first and most important teachers;
- (6) draws to the attention of all Members that many studies have shown that families not only make a powerful impact on the way children learn in school but that the influence of family actually outweighs that of the school; and
- (7) recognises that family-related variables have been overlooked in health promotion and health strategy literature and that if recognised and addressed, these family-related variables offer a new area for health promotion with strong possibilities for further success in reducing the burden of ill-health in the community. (*Notice given 20 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

**16 MR HARDGRAVE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the importance of the long-standing friendship and trade between Australia and the Republic of China on Taiwan;
- (2) expresses its care and concern for the pain and suffering felt by all Taiwanese following the recent earthquake tragedy;
- (3) acknowledges the generous role and good citizenry displayed by Taiwanese born Australian citizens; and
- (4) expresses its frustration for the political circumstances which prevent the Taiwanese from playing a full and rightful role in world affairs. (*Notice given 20 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

**17 MR K. J. THOMSON:** To move—That this House:

- (1) condemns the Australian Democrat, Liberal and National Senators for not proceeding with or supporting the following terms of reference for the Senate Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services proposed by Democrat Senator Lyn Allison on 9 March 1999:

That the Committee inquire into and report on:

- (a) the adequacy of the tax system and related policy to address the retirement income and health care needs of Australians into the new millennium;
  - (b) strategies for building more effective national retirement income and long-term saving outcomes;
  - (c) reforms that could be implemented following completion of the Superannuation Guarantee Charge phase-in to 9 per cent; and
  - (d) the taxation of superannuation, particularly the Superannuation High Income Earners Tax Surcharge legislation and alternative payment mechanism; and
- (2) believes these to be important areas of inquiry for the Senate Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services. (*Notice given 21 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

18 **MR SECKER:** To move—That this House:

- (1) places on record the decline of regional infrastructure within parts of Australia, particularly in smaller rural communities;
- (2) notes that increasingly, rural and regional Australians are required to travel a considerable distance to access quality medical services;
- (3) further notes the growing size and scale of the transport industry is placing new demands on many roads throughout Australia and these roads need regular maintenance; and
- (4) calls on the Government to examine funding to regional infrastructure projects so that smaller rural and regional communities can have access to similar services that city people have. (*Notice given 21 October 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

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

- (1) recognises the importance of affordable, quality child care for Australian parents;
- (2) deplors 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 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; and
- (4) calls for a study to assess the feasibility of establishing workplace child care facilities for Members, Senators and staff working at Parliament House. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

20 **MR PRICE:** To move—

- (1) That a Standing Committee on Appropriations and Staffing be appointed to inquire into:
  - (a) proposals for the annual estimates and the additional estimates for the House of Representatives;
  - (b) proposals to vary the staff structure of the House of Representatives, and staffing and recruitment policies; and
  - (c) such other matters as are referred to it by the House;
- (2) That the committee shall:
  - (a) in relation to estimates—
    - (i) determine the amounts for inclusion in the parliamentary appropriation bills for the annual and the additional appropriations; and
    - (ii) report to the House upon its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill; and
  - (b) in relation to staffing—
    - (i) make recommendations to the Speaker; and
    - (ii) report to the House on its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill;
- (3) That the committee consist of the Speaker and 11 other members, 6 members to be nominated by the Chief Government Whip or Whips and 5 members to be nominated by the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips or any independent Member;
- (4) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair;
- (5) That the committee elect a deputy chairman who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chairman at that meeting;
- (6) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine;
- (7) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;
- (8) That the quorum of a subcommittee be a majority of the members of that subcommittee;
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;

- (10) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records;
  - (11) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place;
  - (12) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House;
  - (13) That the committee have leave to report from time to time; and
  - (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)
- 21 **MR PRICE:** To move—
- (1) That standing order 28B be amended by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (b):
    - (ba) annual and additional estimates contained in the appropriation bills presented to the House shall stand referred for consideration by Members of the relevant committee (as determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) for the consideration of annual reports), and, for the purposes of this consideration:
      - (i) six Members of each committee, determined by the committee in each case, shall consider the estimates;
      - (ii) the Members of the committee selected to consider the estimates shall meet with Members of the relevant Senate legislation committee so that the Members and Senators may meet together for the purposes of considering the estimates;
      - (iii) members of the relevant House and Senate committees, when meeting together to consider estimates, shall choose a Member or a Senator to chair the joint meetings;
      - (iv) the provisions of Senate standing order 26 shall, to the extent that they are applicable, apply to the consideration of estimates under this paragraph, and
      - (v) that, upon the completion of joint meetings at which evidence is received or written answers or additional information considered, it shall then be a matter for the Members of the relevant committee to consider the terms of any report to the House on the estimates.
  - (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)
- 22 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 94 to read as follows:

**Closure of Member**

**94** A motion may be made that a Member who is speaking, except a Member giving a notice of motion or formally moving the terms of a motion allowed under the standing orders or speaking to a motion of dissent (from any ruling of the Speaker under standing order 100), “be not further heard”, and such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

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

**Presentation of petitions**

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

- (a) in respect of each petition, the petitioner, or one of the petitioners, may present the petition to the House by standing at the Bar of the House and reading to the House the prayer of the petition, and
- (b) where a petitioner is not able to present the petition in accordance with paragraph (a) of this standing order, the Member who has lodged the petition may present it to the House by reading to the House the prayer of the petition. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

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

**Questions to committee chairs**

**143A** Questions may be put to a Member in his or her capacity as Chair of a committee of the House, or of a joint committee, in connection with the work or duties of the committee in question. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

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

**Questions without notice—Time limits**

**145A** During question time:

- (a) the asking of each question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each question may not exceed 4 minutes;
- (b) the asking of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute; and
- (c) the time taken to make and determine points of order is not to be regarded as part of the time for questions and answers. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

- 26 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 275A be omitted and the following standing order be substituted:

**Statements by Members**

**275A** Notwithstanding standing order 275, when the Main Committee meets on a Thursday, the business before the Committee shall be interrupted at 1 p.m. and the Chair shall call for statements by Members. A Member, other than a Minister, may be called by the Chair to make a statement for a period not exceeding 3 minutes. The period for Members' statements may continue for a maximum of 1 hour. Any business under discussion at 1 p.m. and interrupted under the provisions of this standing order shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting. (*Notice given 24 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000*)

27 **MR SNOWDON:** To move—That this House, noting the desire of the Australian community to satisfactorily resolve outstanding issues concerning the stolen generations referred to in the recommendations of the report by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, *Bringing Them Home*:

- (1) calls on the Government:
  - (a) to settle the stolen generation case currently before the Federal Court in the Northern Territory; and
  - (b) after consultation and agreement with appropriate representatives of the stolen generations, to:
    - (i) establish an alternative dispute resolution tribunal to assist members of the stolen generations by resolving claims for compensation through consultation, conciliation and negotiation, rather than adversarial litigation and, where appropriate and agreed to, deliver alternative forms of restitution; and
    - (ii) set up processes and mechanisms, which are adequately funded, to:
      - (A) provide counselling;
      - (B) record the testimonies of members of the stolen generations;
      - (C) educate Australians about their history and current plight;
      - (D) help them to establish their ancestry and to access family reunion services; and
      - (E) help them to re-establish or rebuild their links to their culture, language and history; and
- (2) calls on the Government to refer the following matters to a Joint Committee of the Parliament for inquiry and report by the last sitting day of the first sitting week in October 2000:
  - (a) the adequacy and effectiveness of the Government's response to the recommendations of the *Bringing Them Home* report;
  - (b) appropriate ways for Governments to implement paragraph (1)(b) of this resolution;
  - (c) effective ways of implementing recommendations of the *Bringing Them Home* report including an examination of existing funding arrangements;
  - (d) the impact of the Government's response to recommendations of the *Bringing Them Home* report with particular reference to the

consistency of this response with the aims of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation; and

- (c) the consistency of the Government's response to recommendations of the *Bringing Them Home* report with the hopes, aspirations and needs of members of the stolen generation and their descendants. (*Notice given 25 November 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

28 **MR LATHAM:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the alarming skills deficit in regional Australia, especially in terms of higher education access;
- (2) regards the elimination of this skills deficit as the key to successful regional development and equity in Australia;
- (3) notes the complete failure of the Howard Government to address this problem;
- (4) recognises the need to build greater diversity and equity into Australia's higher education system; and
- (5) supports policies to lower the costs of regional university education. (*Notice given 8 December 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

29 **MR HORNE:** To move—That a Standing Committee on Legal Affairs and Ethics be appointed to inquire into whether to permit human surrogacy in Australia and, if so,:

- (1) under what terms and conditions surrogacy should be legalised; and
- (2) the legal, ethical, moral and religious framework by which legal agreements could be drawn up to allow human surrogacy to take place giving maximum legal safeguards to all people involved. (*Notice given 8 December 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

30 **MR LATHAM:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the preliminary findings of the Australian National Training Authority National Marketing Strategy for Skills and Lifelong Learning;
- (2) recognises the substantial enthusiasm and energy of Australians for lifelong learning;
- (3) notes with concern the public's reservations about the effectiveness and suitability of formal educational institutions; and
- (4) declares its support for the urgent development of an innovative national policy for the adult and community education sector as the best way of engaging Australians in the benefits of lifelong learning. (*Notice given 8 December 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

31 **MS HOARE:** To move—That the House:

- (1) condemns the use of brutality against workers who are protesting for the right to collectively bargain and condemns such brutality which was evidenced during:



- (a) the waterfront dispute in April 1998 when hired strikebreaking thugs used mace spray and vicious dogs to try to intimidate workers and their families; and most recently
    - (b) the Pilbara BHP dispute when Western Australian police used batons to bash, bruise and break bone of BHP workers taking warranted industrial action; and
  - (2) notes that the actions taken by unionists during both disputes have been vindicated in Federal Court decisions which have stated that workers have a right to collectively bargain and not be discriminated against for enforcing that right. (*Notice given 15 February 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 32 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the importance of the construction of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System to the economic and social development of Western Sydney;
  - (2) acknowledges the importance of road transport access that diminishes interference with road users in local communities;
  - (3) recognises that in heavily developed regions such as Western Sydney, the speedy access by road transport to local business developments is vital in assisting productivity and business growth;
  - (4) notes the policy commitment of successive governments to build the Western Sydney Orbital Road System;
  - (5) acknowledges that only minimum funding has ever been set aside for the building of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System and that conditions of construction have included the building of a second airport at Badgers Creek; and
  - (6) calls on the federal Government to listen to and act upon the many calls from affected residents, business groups, business development committees, local government spokespersons and other interested parties in Western Sydney and urgently provide sufficient funding to enable the NSW Government to combine in partnership with the Commonwealth to commence immediate construction of the whole Western Sydney Orbital Road System. (*Notice given 15 February 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 33 **MR DANBY:** To move—That this House calls upon the Attorney-General to:
- (1) make a full statement regarding investigations into the war time activities of alleged Nazi war criminal, Konrad Kalejs;
  - (2) advise of the status of any Australian Federal Police investigations pertaining to Mr Kalejs' alleged involvement in the commission of war crimes during World War II;
  - (3) report on the result of talks between Australian Government delegates and Latvian authorities regarding the latter's intentions of seeking Mr Kalejs' extradition; and

- (4) advise of whether the Government intends to introduce any amendments to domestic legislation regarding citizenship and war crimes and of any Government investigations into possible introduction of new legislation, and if so, set out those intentions. (*Notice given 15 February 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 34 **MRS IRWIN:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the increase in deaths caused by heroin and the increase in the number of first-time users under 25;
  - (2) notes the positive results in the use of Naltrexone in the treatment of heroin dependence for some addicts; and
  - (3) regrets the recent decision by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee to exclude Naltrexone from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme other than for the treatment of alcohol dependence. (*Notice given 15 February 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 35 **MR A. P. THOMSON:** To move—That the House:
- (1) urges Telstra to pursue its obligations to Australia's rural and regional dwellers with full vigour; and
  - (2) acknowledges that full privatisation of Telstra would:
    - (a) allow Telstra to pursue more valuable commercial opportunities to the benefit of its shareholders;
    - (b) deliver to the Government sufficient funds to pay off entirely Australia's federal sovereign debt; and
    - (c) ease upward pressure on interest rates in a climate of rising oil prices. (*Notice given 17 February 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 36 **DR SOUTHCOTT:** To move—That the House:
- (1) recognises that one quarter of all wholesale sales tax revenue is raised from cars and component parts;
  - (2) recalls the submissions made to the Industry Commission's Inquiry into Assistance for the Automotive Industry which called for the introduction of a broad based consumption tax;
  - (3) welcomes the abolition of the 22% wholesale sales tax on cars and the introduction of a 10% GST;
  - (4) recognises that a 10% GST will increase the affordability of motor vehicles and will improve the international competitiveness of the automotive industry; and
  - (5) supports the \$12 billion in income tax cuts which will increase households' disposable income. (*Notice given 17 February 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 37 **MR SAWFORD:** To move—That this House acknowledges the historic links between public education and the development of democracy in Australia.

*(Notice given 6 March 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000)*

38 **MR GEORGIU:** To move—That this House recognises that:

- (1) the Parthenon marbles are part of a unique cultural treasure that is an intrinsic feature of the Parthenon in Greece;
- (2) the architectural and cultural integrity of the Parthenon continues to be compromised by the fact that the marbles cannot be viewed in close proximity to the Parthenon;
- (3) the Government of Greece has guaranteed the safe preservation of the Parthenon marbles should they be returned to Athens; and
- (4) every effort should be made by the United Kingdom to facilitate the return of these items of immense cultural value to the people of Greece. *(Notice given 6 March 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000)*

39 **MRS HULL:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the Government's commitment to delivering rural, regional and remote health services;
- (2) notes the low numbers of available rural, regional and remote medical practitioners and registered nurses;
- (3) notes the Government's measures to redress this problem; and
- (4) calls on the Government to continue its commitment and allocation of resources to delivering equity of health services into rural, regional and remote Australia. *(Notice given 8 March 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000)*

## Orders of the day

1 **SELF-FUNDED RETIREES AND THE GST:** Resumption of debate *(from 23 August 1999—Mr Horne, in continuation)* on the motion of Mrs Crosio—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. *(Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 13 March 2000.)*

2 **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR CARERS:** Resumption of debate *(from 23 August 1999)* on the motion of Mrs Gash—That the House:

- (1) understands the need to work towards addressing the needs of people with disabilities and their carers throughout Australia;

- (2) recognises the particular difficulties for people with disabilities and their carers and the need for respite care services and facilities in regions such as Gilmore and Macquarie;
  - (3) welcomes the federal Government's specific commitment of over \$1.7 billion to the Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement to assist them in their primary areas of responsibility and to increase the support for carers of people with disabilities; and
  - (4) calls on governments at all levels to cooperate with one another to identify, fund and maintain services and facilities for respite care for people with disabilities and their carers. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 13 March 2000.*)
- 3 **PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 August 1999*) on the motion of Mr Hardgrave—That this House acknowledges the value to all Australians of their country's growing trade and friendship with the People's Republic of China. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 13 March 2000.*)
- 4 **LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE BILL 1999** (*Mr Kerr*): Second reading (*from 30 August 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)
- 5 **FAIR PRICES AND BETTER ACCESS FOR ALL (PETROLEUM) BILL 1999** (*Mr Fitzgibbon*): Second reading (*from 30 August 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)
- 6 **HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 August 1999—Mr Murphy, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—That the House:
- (1) welcomes the report entitled "Final report of the Health and Medical Research Strategic Review Committee: The virtuous cycle—Working together for health and medical research" and its recommendations for implementation;
  - (2) notes the important link between Australia's health and medical research capability and the delivery of a cost-effective and equitable health care system;
  - (3) recognises the excellent work and the high level of commitment among those working in the medical research field;
  - (4) applauds the Federal Government's specific commitment to increasing annual funding for health and medical research, through the National Health and Medical Research Council, by more than doubling funding of base research with an investment of a further \$614m over the next six years; and
  - (5) urges the Federal Government to pursue reforms proposed in the final report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)
- 7 **REPUBLIC REFERENDUM:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 August 1999*) on the motion of Ms Roxon—That the House:
- (1) notes the importance of the referendum on 6 November 1999 that goes to our identity as a nation and our system of government;

- (2) notes that our stable democracy will continue and be strengthened if this referendum question were to be approved by the people of Australia;
  - (3) urges all Members of this House, whether they be monarchists, republicans or direct election supporters, to participate honestly in the referendum campaign; and
  - (4) deplors misleading and mischievous scare campaigns on such an important national issue, such as:
    - (a) the misrepresentation of the current powers of the Prime Minister to dismiss a Governor-General;
    - (b) suggesting that the new constitutional arrangements would be unworkable or undemocratic;
    - (c) understating the significance of the public nomination process;
    - (d) mischaracterising the non-partisan role of the Commonwealth Parliament in appointing the President; and
    - (e) the use of the preamble issue to distract from the question of whether Australia should have an Australian Head of State. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 13 March 2000.*)
- 8 **AVIATION NOISE OMBUDSMAN BILL 1999** (*Mr Albanese*): Second reading (*from 20 September 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 9 **DRUGS STRATEGY**: Resumption of debate (*from 20 September 1999*) on the motion of Mrs Irwin—That the House:
- (1) notes the failure of the Howard Government’s Tough on Drugs Strategy, in particular, that after two years there has been:
    - (a) an increase in drug use, with the average age of first users decreasing;
    - (b) no significant decline in the amount of illicit drugs entering Australia, even after a number of high profile “busts”;
    - (c) inadequate funding for community-based programs in those areas of greatest need, particularly the south-west of Sydney; and
    - (d) a lack of evidence that zero tolerance policies have achieved anything other than making the illicit drug trade the world’s fastest growing industry; and
  - (2) calls on the Government to take a more effective and creative approach to stemming the social tragedy being caused by the increasing use of heroin and other dangerous, addictive and illicit drugs. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 10 **HUMAN RIGHTS AND IRANIAN JEWS**: Resumption of debate (*from 20 September 1999*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—That the House:
- (1) reaffirms the fundamental principles of human rights that must be practised by the entire international community;

- (2) condemns the false arrest and imprisonment of thirteen Iranian Jews on spurious espionage charges; and
  - (3) calls upon Iranian authorities to immediately release the falsely imprisoned Iranian Jews. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 11 **HOMELESSNESS AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 September 1999*) on the motion of Mrs Gash—That the House:
- (1) recognises the very high risk of homelessness amongst young people in several areas of regional Australia;
  - (2) recognises that this is a problem amongst young people in regions such as Gilmore and Macquarie;
  - (3) welcomes the federal Government's specific commitment of over \$45 million towards reducing that risk and providing appropriate accommodation services; and
  - (4) calls on governments at all levels to cooperate with one another to identify, fund and implement programs of assistance for our young people. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 12 **INQUIRY INTO MEDICAL PROFESSION:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 September 1999—Mr Lawler, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Latham—That the House urges the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to conduct a full-scale inquiry into the medical profession, focussing on:
- (1) anti-competitive practices, particularly among surgeons and specialists;
  - (2) reform of medical training practices, particularly within the College of Surgeons; and
  - (3) areas where the medical profession does not comply with trade practices law. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 13 **EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 September 1999*) on the motion of Dr Emerson—That the House:
- (1) expresses its concern about widening inequality in Australia;
  - (2) notes the increasing evidence that the earliest years of childhood are vital in determining the life chances of young people;
  - (3) recognises that early intervention in the form of parenting programs, home visiting and literacy and numeracy programs are valuable in improving the life chances of young people; and
  - (4) acknowledges that the Commonwealth has an important role to play in the funding of early intervention programs. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 14 **CHILD CARE AND PARENTAL CHOICE:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 September 1999*) on the motion of Mrs Elson—That the House:

- (1) acknowledges the financial sacrifice made by parents, one of whom chooses to care for their children full-time, rather than return to paid employment;
  - (2) recognises the social and community value of this full-time care, including the reduced burden on Government expenditure;
  - (3) notes the social pressure on many of today's women with young children to remain in paid employment; and
  - (4) welcomes the Government's ongoing commitment to provide real choice for parents by easing the financial pressure on Australian families by (a) continuing low interest rates, (b) the new, fairer tax system and (c) specifically, recognising the value of full-time care by more than doubling of the tax free threshold for single income families with a child under 5 years of age. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 15 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE SERVICE AND TRAINING) BILL 1999** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 11 October 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 16 **SIX BILLION PEOPLE DAY**: Resumption of debate (*from 11 October 1999*) on the motion of Dr Nelson—That this House:
- (1) notes Tuesday 12th October is the day of Six Billion People;
  - (2) notes uncontrollable population expansion will lead to increasing pressure on the world leading to serious environmental and social problems;
  - (3) while respecting cultural sensibilities, calls for a realistic approach to family planning, including access to information on family planning; and
  - (4) stresses the issues of population and development are interconnected. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 17 **OYSTER INDUSTRY**: Resumption of debate (*from 11 October 1999*) on the motion of Mr Horne—That the House:
- (1) acknowledges the oyster industry as a responsible industry that is a large employer of people both directly and indirectly in regional Australia;
  - (2) recognises that regional jobs are rapidly diminishing and the loss of a viable oyster industry would result in the loss of thousands of jobs in coastal Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria; and
  - (3) calls on the Government as a matter of urgency to exclude oyster farmers from having to value their oyster crop as an asset and therefore be considered as income for taxation purposes starting in the year 2000-2001. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 18 **PHARMACIES**: Resumption of debate (*from 11 October 1999*) on the motion of Mr Neville—That this House:
- (1) recognises the role of community pharmacy in the Australian health system;

- (2) notes the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on the Retailing Sector regarding the discouragement of pharmacies in chain stores;
  - (3) draws attention to the independent professional status of Australian pharmacists in their delivery of dispensing and health advisory services; and
  - (4) believes that pharmacy ownership should continue to reside with duly trained and qualified pharmacists. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 19 **BROADCASTING FROM COX PENINSULA:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 October 1999*) on the motion of Mr Hollis—That this House:
- (1) calls on the Government to reverse the decision on the transmitters at Cox Peninsula near Darwin; and
  - (2) urges the Government to recommence broadcasting from Cox Peninsula as a matter of urgency. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 20 **DEFENCE (RE-ESTABLISHMENT) AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 18 October 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 21 **WORK FOR THE DOLE PROGRAM:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 October 1999*) on the motion of Mrs Elson—That this House:
- (1) recognises the widespread community support for the Government’s “Work for the dole” program;
  - (2) acknowledges the vital role played by the hundreds of community groups and local organisations throughout the nation that conduct local work for the dole projects;
  - (3) recognises the social value and community contribution of the work carried out by participants; and
  - (4) welcomes the Government’s commitment to expanding Work for the dole, as outlined in the 1999-2000 Budget initiative to double the number of Work for the dole places to 50 000 next year—providing hope, experience and opportunity for more young Australian jobseekers. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 22 **YOUNG PEOPLE:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 October 1999—Mr Cameron, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Mossfield—That the House:
- (1) recognises that there needs to be a greater recognition by all adults of the needs of younger people;
  - (2) recognises that there needs to be a nation-wide recognition that young people can gather together without being regarded as potential law-breakers;
  - (3) recognises that security personnel need to be far better trained to deal with young people in shopping centres and other public places and that such training enable the security personnel to better determine the correct method of handling young people in public places and shopping centres;



- (4) recognises that adults need to be more publicly exposed to young people and listen uncritically to the views they express and respect young people for the views they hold even if they are not agreed with;
  - (5) recognises that Parliament supports the provision of an increase in technical high schools where young people can expand their practical talents where they are not necessarily academically inclined;
  - (6) recognises that Parliament recognises the need for increasing dramatically the number of careers advisers available to young people for assistance prior to their leaving school and seeking full time employment; and
  - (7) conduct a Parliamentary inquiry into the foregoing in order that proper national policies can be recommended to Government that will assist the advancement of young people of the future. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 23 **PREGNANCY AND THE WORKPLACE:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 October 1999*) on the motion of Mrs Elson—That this House:
- (1) notes the recent report of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission, “Pregnant and Productive: It’s a Right not a Privilege to Work while Pregnant”;
  - (2) recognises that a significant level of discrimination against pregnant women still exists in many workplaces;
  - (3) acknowledges the vital importance of families in Australian society; and
  - (4) calls on all employers in Australia to be aware of, and sensitive to, their responsibility to their female employees to ensure they do not suffer discrimination on the grounds of pregnancy. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 24 **AUSAID:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 October 1999*) on the motion of Mr Hollis—That this House:
- (1) expresses its sympathy at the loss of life of three Australian AusAID workers in the recent air crash in Fiji;
  - (2) commends AusAID for the work it is performing throughout the South Pacific, especially relating to population and development issues; and
  - (3) calls on the Australian Government to at least maintain current funding, but also consider increased aid for development work in the South Pacific. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 25 **SUPERANNUATION (ENTITLEMENTS OF SAME SEX COUPLES) BILL 1999** (*Mr Albanese*): Second reading (*from 22 November 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 13 March 2000.*)
- 26 **COOK’S ENDEAVOUR:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 November 1999—Mr Price, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr C. P. Thompson—That this House:

- (1) notes the reported discovery of Cook's ship *Endeavour* off Newport, Rhode Island;
  - (2) acknowledges that if it is indeed the *Endeavour*, this wreck is the most important single artefact in Australia's history;
  - (3) notes that the United States and British Governments are preparing for a legal battle over rights to the wreck;
  - (4) calls on the Government as a matter of urgency to immediately notify the world community of the importance of the wreck to Australia and stake our claim to its ownership by virtue of its significance to our nation;
  - (5) calls on the Government to support a fundraising campaign to enable the recovery and eventual return of the wreck to Botany Bay; and
  - (6) ensures that plans for this important venture are in place and that the public fundraising and community awareness campaign is made a centrepiece of Australia's Centenary of Federation celebrations in 2001. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 27 **INSOLVENCY AND EMPLOYEES:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 November 1999*) on the motion of Mrs Crosio—That the House calls for a parliamentary committee inquiry into the ways and means by which the Commonwealth can advise and assist employees recently made redundant due to the insolvency of their employer, or facing the threat of redundancy, including:
- (1) how to organise themselves into co-operative organisations to either purchase or lease the company for which they work when it becomes insolvent or nears insolvency, if after a rigorous analysis of the company's finances such action is deemed to be prudent, sensible and standing a genuine chance of success and thereby maintain their employment;
  - (2) how to make the required reforms to the financial structure of the company in question in order to make it economically viable; and
  - (3) what management training programs may be necessary in order for employees to successfully administer their business and avoid insolvency in the future. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 28 **ASTHMA:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 November 1999*) on the motion of Ms Gambaro—That this House:
- (1) welcomes the Government's commitment to provide \$9.2 million to fund education and increase awareness to consumers about asthma;
  - (2) notes the development of best practice in asthma management plans and integrating care for people with asthma;
  - (3) recognises the increased funding to research to improve our understanding of asthma; and
  - (4) welcomes the promotion of improving the understanding of the effects of asthma on 2 million Australians. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

- 29 **RUGBY LEAGUE:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 November 1999—Mr Bevis, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Albanese—That this House:
- (1) notes the national and international status of Rugby League;
  - (2) applauds the actions of rugby league supporters in demonstrating their support for clubs to remain in the National Rugby League (NRL) competition;
  - (3) notes that teams which are financially sound, have superb facilities, a support base and an outstanding junior team development structure are vital to the future survival of rugby league;
  - (4) notes that to abandon any sense of history, spirit and community involvement will destroy Rugby League;
  - (5) recognises that local institutions play a central role in defining a sense of community and giving our youth role models to aspire to;
  - (6) notes that the Super League/ARL dispute resulted in significant disillusionment from Rugby League supporters and that any forced exclusion of teams will exacerbate this;
  - (7) declares that Rugby League's greatest shareholders are its fans; and
  - (8) calls upon the NRL to include South Sydney in the 2000 competition. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 30 **TOURISM:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 1999*) on the motion of Mr Baird—That this House:
- (1) commends the Government for its efforts in promoting domestic and international tourism which has resulted in a 7% increase in international visitors during the last 12 months;
  - (2) notes the significance to the economy of the number of jobs created by tourism; and
  - (3) notes the foreign exchange earnings resulting from international visitor travel to Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 31 **REGIONAL AUSTRALIA:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 1999*) on the motion of Ms Hall—That this House:
- (1) the failure of the Howard Government to address the needs of people living in regional Australia;
  - (2) the lack of knowledge demonstrated by the Government of issues that impact on the daily lives of regional Australians;
  - (3) the failure of the Government to provide jobs, services and adequate health resources to regional Australia; and
  - (4) the betrayal of regional Australia by the Government's inability to differentiate between regional and rural Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

- 32 **RUGBY LEAGUE** Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2000*) on the motion of Mr Baird—That this House acknowledges Rugby League as one of Australia’s national sports and congratulates the players, referees, fans and administrators of the game on:
- (1) the expansion of Rugby League into non-traditional geographic areas during recent years;
  - (2) the establishment of a Rugby League Foundation which will provide additional funding to junior development in regional areas of NSW and Queensland;
  - (3) the victory of the Melbourne Storm in the 1999 National Rugby League Grand Final in only its second year of operation;
  - (4) a rise in average game attendances of 30% in 1999 with over 3 million Australians attending NRL games in 1999; and
  - (5) the successful implementation of the 1997 peace plan between the Australian Rugby League and Super League which will see the NRL conduct a 14 team national competition in 2000. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 33 **TELEVISION ADVERTISEMENTS:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2000*) on the motion of Dr Emerson—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the irritation caused to television viewers by the broadcasting of advertisements at volumes or pitches greater than those of normal programs;
  - (2) notes that neither the Broadcasting Services Act nor the Commercial Television Code of Practice requires television stations to broadcast advertisements at the same sound level as their programs;
  - (3) notes that at present the only recourse for viewers unhappy about the volume of advertisements is to complain to the television stations or the advertisers; and
  - (4) calls on the Government to amend the Broadcasting Services Act to empower the Australian Broadcasting Authority to regulate the volume and pitch of television advertisements. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)
- 34 **OVINE JOHNE’S DISEASE:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2000—Mr Gibbons, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Schultz—That this House:
- (1) places on record concern about the continued activity of the NSW Government in relation to the control of Ovine Johne’s Disease (OJD) in sheep being without precedent in animal disease control in Australia;
  - (2) notes that as at April 1999 over 900 farms were identified as being affected or suspected of having OJD in rural NSW alone, with most of these properties being in quarantine;
  - (3) further notes the serious economic and social problems being faced by sheep and wool producers because of a growing concern that employment of

veterinarians is a greater factor in the current enthusiasm for control than concerns for the disease free status of the industry; and

- (4) calls on the Federal Government to freeze all funding under the National Ovine Johne's Disease program until such time as an investigation is undertaken into NSW Department of Agriculture procedures to ensure its actions are based on sound scientific and socio-economic grounds. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 13 March 2000.*)

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**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. Its determinations for the next sitting Monday are shown under "Business accorded priority for this sitting". 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).

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**BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE**

*Wednesday, 15 March 2000*

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

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****Order of the day**

- 1 **CLASSIFICATION (PUBLICATIONS, FILMS AND COMPUTER GAMES) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).

**COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS****Order of the day**

- 1 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND ITS COMMITTEES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr Wilton*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—That the House take note of the report.



## 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*

*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.

*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.

*24 March 1999*

- 538 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—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.

*3 June 1999*

682 **MR LINDSAY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many resident/resident applications were granted funding by Legal Aid since 1 June 1998.
- (2) How many successful resident applications for legal funding were made by (a) men and (b) women since 1 June 1998.
- (3) How many men have applied for legal aid in Family Law matters since 1 June 1998.
- (4) How many men have applied for legal aid in Family Law matters since 1 June 1998 but were unsuccessful on (a) financial grounds or (b) merit.
- (5) Does Legal Aid treat a resident/resident application by a financially eligible father, who receives only fortnightly contact and lives in the same suburb as the mother with no history of domestic violence, as being not a substantial issue and therefore not eligible for funding on lack of merit.
- (6) Since the *B and B* case, how many resident/resident orders excluding consent orders, expressed (a) in raw numbers and (b) as a percentage, has the Family Court ordered in cases where the contact with both parents is at least 40 per cent.

*9 August 1999*

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

- (1) How many full-time equivalent staff positions will be dedicated to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) related tasks referred to in the Portfolio Budget Statement for the Australian Taxation Office in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-01, (c) 2001 -02 and (d) 2002-03.
- (2) What will be the total cost of staff in each year referred to in part (1).
- (3) How many staff will be sourced (a) internally and (b) via external recruitment for GST related tasks.
- (4) What will happen to staff currently dealing with sales tax.
- (5) Will the ATO achieve the savings necessary to reduce staffing expenditure from \$996 762 000 in 1999-2000 to \$ 879 060 000 in 2002-03.

827 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—For each year since 1995-96, how many doctors bulk-billed (a) Australia wide, (b) in each State and Territory, and (c) in the electoral Division of Batman.

*26 August 1999*

885 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Will he provide details on the level and effectiveness of Government programs since 1996 designed to deal with hearing impairment within the indigenous community.



- (2) What funds have been allocated to hearing services since 1996, and what proportion of those funds was used to service the needs of the indigenous community.
- (3) What proportion of funding for hearing services was used in programs to prevent hearing impairment in Aboriginal children.
- (4) Will he provide details of hearing impairment programs to prevent the onset of hearing impairment for indigenous children.
- (5) Is he able to say how long it will be before it will be possible to provide preventive medicine for all newborn indigenous children so that they do not contract hearing impairment diseases.
- (6) Are future programs proposed to eradicate all acquired hearing impairment from the indigenous communities; if so, what are the details.

*23 September 1999*

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

- (1) Did he receive a briefing from his Department or the Navy prior to issuing his media statement of 22 January 1999 about the HMAS *Sydney* harassment case; if so, on what date and in what form was the briefing provided.
- (2) Did he request and receive a briefing from the Chief of the Navy at the conclusion of the investigation; if not, why not.
- (3) When and how did he first become aware that the outcome of the case was actually a management initiated early retirement.
- (4) Will he ensure that future serious allegations against senior Navy officers are investigated independently of the chain of command; if so, what are the details of the changed procedures.

*28 September 1999*

941 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did he state in his answer to a question without notice (*Hansard*, 2 September 1999, page 7467) relating to the lack of public funding available to inform voters about the proposed preamble that one of the factors influencing the Government's decision not to provide such funding was that the proposed preamble received overwhelming support in the Parliament.
- (2) Did he also state in his answer to the question referred to in part (1) that if the level of disagreement within the Parliament is a measure of community view on this issue and also on the issue of a republic, then there is a difference.
- (3) Is it a fact that (a) 192 Members of Parliament voted for a third reading of the Constitution Alteration (Establishment of Republic) Bill 1999 while only 20 voted against and (b) 139 Members of Parliament voted for a third reading of the Constitution Alteration (Preamble) Bill 1999 and 92 did not support the passage of the Bill.

- (4) Is the level of disagreement over the proposed preamble as reflected by votes in Parliament far greater than that over the proposed republic model and will he make sufficient public funds available for the YES and NO preamble cases to be adequately explained to the voters.

*30 September 1999*

955 **MR CREAN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Coalition promise not to introduce new taxes or increase existing taxes during the 1996 election.
- (2) What tax rates did the Government increase and what new taxes did it introduce between the 1996 and 1998 Federal elections.

960 **MR ZAHRA:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 784 (*Hansard*, 23 August 1999, page 6825), is the Residential Care Subsidy the only source of funds provided by his Department to Croft Health Care P/L, Croft Health Care Vic P/L and Gracedale Manor P/L.
- (2) Have other subsidies or supplements, including the concessional resident, pensioner, respite and viability supplements, under the *Aged Care Act 1997* been received by the companies referred to in part (1); if so, (a) what sum was paid and (b) when were the payments made.
- (3) Have complaints been made against the three companies referred to in part (1) or the facilities they operate; if so, what is the full list of complaints that may be lodged.
- (4) For each complaint referred to in his answer, (a) how was the complaint detected or lodged, (b) on what date was the complaint detected or lodged (c) how was the complaint resolved within the Aged Care Complaints Resolution Scheme, (d) did the complaint result in a surprise visit or inspection by Aged Care Standards Accreditation Agency (ACSAA) or departmental officers and (e) when was the complaint resolved.
- (5) Have the facilities operated by the companies referred to in part (1) been the subject of a surprise inspection or assessment conducted by ACSAA or departmental officers; if so, (a) on how many occasions, (b) what was the assessment of each facility and (c) were problems detected or complaints received; if so, (i) what were they and (ii) what action was taken to resolve the problems.
- (6) What sum has been provided to each of the companies referred to in part (1) by his Department.

*11 October 1999*

964 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What sum was provided by his Department to Family Planning Australia in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98 and (d) 1998-99 and what sum will be provided in 1999-2000.
- (2) Has secretariat funding been provided by his Department to the Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services; if so, (a) when did funding

commence, (b) what are the purposes for which funding is provided and (c) what sum will be allocated to the Federation in 1999-2000.

*12 October 1999*

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 766 (*Hansard*, 21 September 1999, page 7690), how many of the reservists recruited in 1998-99 for the (a) Navy, (b) Army and (c) Air Force were personnel transferring to the Reserves from the permanent forces.
- (2) Since March 1996 has the Australian Defence Force conducted market research on (a) reservists and potential reservists and (b) employers, on the difficulties of combining reserve service with civilian employment; if so, who conducted the research and what were the main findings.
- (3) If the Government has not conducted recent market research, what information sources does it rely on in order to develop suitable recruitment and retention measures.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 545 (*Hansard*, 9 August 1999, page 6321) concerning extradition proceedings regarding Mr P Foster, is the Minister able to provide further responses to parts (3) and (4) of that question; if not, why not.
- (2) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to Justice Drummond's criticisms (in *Foster v Minister* 164 ALR 357 at paragraphs 63 and 64) of the advice tendered to the Minister by the Minister's Department.
- (3) In light of Justice Drummond's finding that there would appear no difficulty in obtaining informed opinion from the UK Serious Fraud Office as to the punishment Mr Foster would be likely to receive if convicted in the UK of only the three extradition offences, has the Minister made such an inquiry.
- (4) If inquiries have not been made, why not, given that Justice Drummond has characterised this as causing the Minister to fail to take into account an issue the Minister was required by regulation 7 to have regard to.
- (5) If inquiries have been made, what was the advice of the Serious Fraud Office.
- (6) Are the offences for which Mr Foster's extradition has been sought regarded as not trivial in nature by the Minister; if so, why, given Justice Drummond's remarks at paragraph 65.
- (7) What are the particulars of the three offences against Mr Foster in respect of which his extradition has been sought.
- (8) Did the Minister and the Minister's Department have regard to the answers given by the UK Lord Chancellor, commented upon by Justice Drummond at paragraph 53; if not, why not.
- (9) What steps will the Minister take to improve the processing of extradition applications by the Minister and by the Minister's Department to ensure that

proper regard is given to the seriousness of the actual conduct alleged and offence charged in an application for extradition.

*21 October 1999*

1014 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is he able to say whether the former Government of South Vietnam intended to present awards to some 21 Officers and Other Ranks of the 1st Australian Task Force in Vietnam following the battle of Long Tan, and that confirmation of this is available from Charles Tran Van Lam, former President of the Senate, Ambassador to Australia and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Vietnam.
- (2) Is he able to say whether the then South Vietnamese Government had intended to present all soldiers and officers of D Coy, 6RAR, a unit citation in addition to awards to individual soldiers, but the presentation of the awards was prevented by the then Australian Government through the Ambassador to South Vietnam on the basis that Her Majesty, the Queen, had not given consent.
- (3) Is he able to confirm that the Australian Government of the day gave a commitment that it would seek approval for these awards and allow them to be presented at a later date.
- (4) Was the President of the then South Vietnam forced to substitute Vietnamese dolls and cigar boxes as presentations to these diggers in lieu of medals.
- (5) Is it appropriate for these veterans to wear those trinkets in lieu of proper decorations on occasions such as Vietnam Veterans' Day or Anzac Day; if not, will he review the evidence from Mr Tran Van Lam and grant the retrospective approval for the correct awards.
- (6) Why was this matter not dealt with under the review of the Vietnam End of War List completed earlier in 1999.
- (7) Is he satisfied that the decorations presented to Australian Servicemen under the previous Imperial system of awards following the battle of Long Tan were the appropriate level of award; if so, on what basis does he make that assessment.

*22 November 1999*

1039 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Did the Government announce in press release WS100/98, dated 20 September 1998, that an additional \$80 million will be spent over 4 years to provide 130 000 days of additional in home respite care every year for carers of people with dementia.
- (2) Has the announcement been honoured; if not, why not.
- (3) How many days of additional in home respite care will be provided for carers of people with dementia each year.

1041 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has the Government, or any person on behalf of the Government, conducted research into the health effects of poor dental health.

- (2) Does poor dental health have direct links to negative outcomes for pregnancy, birth weight, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.
- (3) Does poor dental health also impact directly on primary health care, pharmaceutical, work force and social political issues.
- (4) Has research been undertaken as to the preventative value of regular access to dental care where regular review of a patient's teeth by the dentist contributes to positive primary health care outcomes.
- (5) Do those positive health outcomes have positive economic outcomes; if so what are those positive economic outcomes.

1047 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are members of the Army Reserve who agree to undertake temporary continuous full-time service in Australia, East Timor or elsewhere, eligible to receive assistance under the ADF's Resettlement Scheme; if so, are they entitled to (a) resettlement information and advice, (b) discharge resettlement training, (c) approved absence for job-seeking and associated purposes and (d) financial assistance under the Services' Vocational Educational Training Scheme for study in the member's own time.
- (2) If reservists are ineligible for resettlement assistance, what measures are in place to facilitate their return to civilian life after a period of continuous full-time service.

*23 November 1999*

1048 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has Naltrexone been approved in the USA for drug rehabilitation; if so, when was it approved.
- (2) Which countries have approved Naltrexone for use.

1053 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has the Government considered the allocation of geographic medicare provider numbers to counter the maldistribution of doctors between non-metropolitan and metropolitan Australia.
- (2) Has the Government sought legal advice on whether the allocation of medicare provider numbers on a geographic basis may be in conflict with the Constitution; if so, has the advice been received and what is the nature of the advice.

1054 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Which States and Territories have agreed to provide alternatives to the Australian Medical Council examination process for overseas trained doctors to work in country areas.
- (2) What action has been taken to achieve a uniform registration process across all States for overseas trained doctors.

*25 November 1999*

1061 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) At what point in the production chain from paddock to plate will livestock cease being a taxable supply and become GST free.
- (2) What livestock components will (a) become GST free and (b) attract the GST.
- (3) Will livestock consigned to abattoirs on an over the hook basis be subject to the GST.
- (4) Is it a fact that it is common practice for abattoirs to charge an all inclusive fee for the slaughter, preparation and processing of livestock, and that part of that fee will relate to the production of GST free and GST liable goods; if so, will the costs have to be apportioned; if so, how.

*6 December 1999*

1068 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many aged persons does the Government estimate will qualify for the Aged Persons Saving Bonus component under subsection 12(1) the A New Tax System (Bonuses for Older Australians) Act.
- (2) How many qualifying persons does the Government expect will receive less than \$500 under the scheme.
- (3) How many aged pensioners does the Government expect will receive no bonus at all.
- (4) How many self funded retirees does the Government estimate will be eligible to receive the Self Funded Retirees Supplementary Bonus component pursuant to subsection 12(2) of the A New Tax System (Bonuses for Older Australians) Act .
- (5) How many qualifying self funded retirees does the Government estimate will receive less than \$500 under the scheme
- (6) How many self funded retirees does the Government expect will receive nothing at all.

1075 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has the Government privatised defence force recruiting; if so, (a) why and (b) what expertise do Employment National and Manpower have in the specialised area of defence force recruiting.
- (2) How many Service personnel are posted to defence force recruiting in each State, and where are they located.
- (3) What role will personnel referred to in part (2) now have in the armed services.
- (4) What guidelines and criteria have the Government given Employment National and Manpower to ensure that their recruitment campaigns select personnel who will be suitable for Australia's armed forces.
- (5) Has his attention been drawn to claims made by current serving personnel that the Government is more interested in a public relations campaign rather than proper recruiting procedures; if so, what steps is he taking to ensure that the current high calibre of service personnel is maintained through the new privatised recruiting procedures.

*7 December 1999*

1081 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Will he provide details of the Government's agreement with the FIA, Australian Grand Prix Corporation and the previous Victorian Coalition Government in regard to the phasing out of tobacco sponsorship of the Formula One and 500cc Motorcycle Grands Prix.
- (2) Is he able to say whether it is the current practice in the British, French and German Grand Prix races to allow logos only on cars and uniforms of drivers and pit crew and, in the case of the German Formula One Grand Prix, not to allow trackside signage; if so, will the Government implement restricted exemptions from the Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act for the Australian Formula One Grand Prix to bring Australia into line with those races.
- (3) Under policy announced in September 1998 to phase out all tobacco sponsorship of international sporting events held in Australia, will he provide details of the phase out schedule for the Australian Formula One Grand Prix with respect to matters such as trackside signage, brand names on cars and team uniforms and other advertising within the confines of the venue.
- (4) Has he or his Department received reports on, or complaints of breaches of, the tobacco exemption granted for the 1999 Australian Formula One Grand Prix; if so, (a) will he release this information, (b) what action has been taken and (c) what steps will be taken in 2000 to ensure that the event complies with all conditions of the exemption.

1089 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) How many of the more than 43 000 public employees engaged in law enforcement at a State or federal level have full-time responsibility for investigating crimes involving art theft and fraud or copyright offences.
- (2) Will the Minister establish an arts and cultural industry investigation unit within the Australian Federal Police or as a separate specialist common service agency with the States and Territories; if not, why not.
- (3) What is the estimate of the annual value of artistic and intellectual property (a) stolen, (b) illicitly copied or pirated and (c) fraudulently passed off as genuine.

*8 December 1999*

1097 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did the Bureau of Air Safety Investigation (BASI) recommend that Airservices Australia and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority need to reconsider the policy of routinely operating any runway at Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport, with up to 25kt. crosswinds solely to cut noise, when other runways are available.
- (2) Will he take steps to ensure that BASI's recommendation be put in place; if not, why not.

9 December 1999

1105 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the policy of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) with respect to billing taxpayers for overdue payments.
- (2) Does the ATO have discretion to charge or not charge fines or interest depending on the sum and associated administrative costs; if so, what are the guidelines; if not, why not.

1106 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) How many nursing homes and aged person hostels are there within the electoral division of Prospect.
- (2) How many of these nursing homes and aged person hostels are operated by (a) private companies and (b) church organisations.
- (3) What sum of Commonwealth funding did each nursing home and aged person hostel within the electoral division of Prospect receive in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 1998-99, (c) 1997-98 and (d) 1996-97.
- (4) How many beds are there in each nursing home and aged person hostel.
- (5) How many beds are being used in each nursing home and aged person hostel.
- (6) How many beds were there in each nursing home and aged person hostel in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1997-98 and (c) 1996-97.
- (7) How many persons are on waiting lists for each nursing home and aged person hostel.

1115 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is it a fact that, following the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966, (a) Lt Col. Harry Smith, who commanded D Company 6 PAR during the battle, recommended the Military Cross be awarded to two of his platoon commanders, (b) these recommendations were not acted on, (c) mentioned in dispatches (MID) awards were provided to these platoon commanders rather than a Military Cross and (d) MID awards were also provided to soldiers who did a good job sorting mail in the Vung Tau Post Office
- (2) On whose authority were Lt Col. Smith's recommendations ignored or altered.
- (3) Has the Government been requested by Lt Col. Smith or others to ensure that those who were recommended for higher awards as a result of their valour in the Battle of Long Tan receive the higher award; if so, what action has the Government taken.
- (4) Did the Battle Commander receive a Distinguished Service Cross with a citation that referred specifically to the Battle, even though he was not physically present at the Battle.
- (5) Did the Brigadier who was the Task Force Commander also receive a mention for personal direction of the Battle in his Distinguished Service Order.



- (6) What were the facts that lead to the findings that the (a) Battalion Commander was involved in the Battle and (b) Task Force Commander directed the Battle.
  - (7) During the Battle, did the Battalion Commander send a message to the armoured relief force en route to the Battle, to return two vehicles to a Col Joy and Little Patty Task Force Concert to pick him up and to halt the relief column and wait for him at the river Suoi Da Bang.
  - (8) If so, was that order countermanded by the A Company Commander who forced the Armoured Commander to proceed and relieve the situation at the Battle area.
  - (9) Did the Battalion Commander finally arrive at the Battle site when the battle was over and after the last shot had been fired and was it only at this point that he actually took command of the scene.
  - (10) Why have the platoon commanders who actually directed the battle activity under fire and great threat, received lesser awards of MID, whilst more senior officers who were not directly involved in the Battle, received higher awards.
  - (11) What action will he take to ensure that Lt Col. Smith's original recommendations for Military Cross awards to be given to his Platoon Commanders is now acted on.
- 1117 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What steps will the Government take to ensure that the new electronic three month business visas for overseas performers will not allow producers to sidestep local labour market tests.
- 1121 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What process is the Government planning to implement to address the increasing number of litigants appearing in court unrepresented.
  - (2) How is the Government addressing the rise in litigants in person, appearing unrepresented in the Family Court of Australia.
  - (3) How many legal aid duty solicitors are employed in each State, and of them, how many are employed to cover out of hours magistrates hearings in each State.
  - (4) How many legal aid duty solicitors are employed to cover out of hours magistrates hearings in the electoral division of Bass.
- 1125 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Is he able to say whether the Commonwealth Government is unable, under the Constitution, to (a) limit the fees charged by medical practitioners for their services and (b) ensure aged pensioners and other people on low incomes are direct billed or at least charged only the schedule fee for medical consultations and services.
  - (2) Will he provide, for the electoral divisions of Bradfield and Calare, data in respect of (a) Level B surgery consultation MBS item number 23, (b) total unREFERRED attendances and (c) total diagnostic imaging services, for services processed in 1998-99 (i) number of services (ii) fees charged (iii) schedule fees (iv) schedule fee observance (v) percentage of services direct billed and

- (vi) average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for persons aged 65 years and older.
- (3) If he is unable to provide the data requested for the electoral divisions of Bradfield and Calare, could he provide the requested data for each of the six RRMA classifications in NSW.

*15 February 2000*

- 1126 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) What sum did the Government spend on its Y2K compliance program.
  - (2) Which companies or individuals were the major beneficiaries of the expenditure.
- 1127 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 957 (*Hansard*, 8 December 1999, page 9801), (a) at which plenary session at the Pentagon in Washington did he meet with General Shelton on 5 May, (b) was it at a plenary session of a conference; if so, (i) what was the name of the conference and (ii) how many persons attended and (c) did he at any time raise the issue of Australian concerns about Indonesian military activities in East Timor with General Shelton.
  - (2) Did he meet with the US Secretary of Defence, William Cohen at a private meeting or at the same plenary session at the Pentagon; if it was a private meeting, what other officials from the US and Australia were present.
  - (3) Did he raise the issue of Australian concerns about Indonesian military activities in East Timor with Mr Cohen.
- 1128 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to two incidents at Perth Airport, reported in the *West Australian* on 8 October 1999, involving the safety of international flights taking off and landing.
  - (2) What measures is he taking to ensure that safety standards are being met at Perth Airport.
  - (3) Will fully automatic systems be introduced on all runways at Perth Airport.
  - (4) Will the 06/24 runway be extended; if so, (a) when and (b) what will be done to ensure that the residents near the airport will not be affected adversely by noise and operations.
- 1129 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Will the Government close the Cannington, WA Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and redeploy staff to the Northbridge Office.
  - (2) How many persons will lose their jobs through the redeployment.
  - (3) Has his Department consulted with staff of the Cannington ATO or the Community and Public Sector Union regarding the redeployment.
  - (4) Are there difficulties with the sub leasing arrangements with the Department of Defence that would hinder the relocation of the ATO staff to Northbridge.

- (5) Have investigations been made as to whether sufficient office space exists in Northbridge to accommodate the more than 600 staff who would need to be relocated; if so, what were the results.
- 1130 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—For each Job Network site in the Eastern Melbourne labour market region of the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, what were the performance ratings for (a) Intensive Assistance, (b) Job Search Training and (c) Job Matching.
- 1131 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—For each Job Network site in the Eastern Melbourne labour market region of the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, how many clients were serviced under Employment Services Contract 1 for (a) Intensive Assistance, (b) Job Search Training and (c) Job Matching.
- 1132 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—For each Job Network site in the Melbourne labour market region of the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, what are the client numbers contained in the Conditional Offers of Business for Employment Services Contract 2 for (a) Intensive Assistance, (b) Job Search Training and (c) Job Matching.
- 1133 **MR HOLLIS:** To ask the Attorney-General—Is it permissible for marriage celebrants to accept Australian passports as proof of birth; if not, why not.
- 1134 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Were additions, improvements or renovations made to (a) Kirribilli House, (b) The Lodge or (c) his Parliament House office in 1999; if so, what (a) are the details and (b) was the cost in each case.
  - (2) What was the total maintenance cost for each location in 1999.
- 1135 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) How many women in the electoral division of Prospect claimed the Medicare rebate for ultrasound screening during 1999.
  - (2) What was the average sum of the rebate.
  - (3) What was the average age of the women.
  - (4) Will the money saved by cutting the Medicare rebate be used to cover expenses of magnetic resonance imaging scanning equipment.
  - (5) Will pregnant women need to pay up to \$85 more for ultrasound screenings; if not, what will be the extra cost for ultrasound screenings.
  - (6) Will poorer women be disadvantaged by the cut to the rebate; if not, why not.
- 1137 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) What are the names of the Job Network providers contracted by the Government in the electoral division of Prospect.
  - (2) How many providers placed a bid for a contract with his Department and what were their names.
  - (3) By what sum did the GST increase the tenderers' figures.

- (4) Were any existing Job Network providers' bids rejected by the Government; if so, (a) which providers and (b) for what reasons.

1138 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many Employment National branches submitted a tender for Job Network 2.
- (2) How many Employment National branches did not receive contracts in Job Network 2.
- (3) How many Employment National workers were employed at branches which did not receive contracts.
- (4) How many persons were employees of the Fairfield branch of Employment National.
- (5) How many job seekers in the electoral division of Prospect were registered with the Fairfield branch of Employment National.
- (6) How many full time and part time jobs in the electoral division of Prospect were filled by Employment National.

1139 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many Community Support Programme (CSP) providers are located in the electoral division of Prospect.
- (2) What are the names of the providers.
- (3) How many persons in the electoral division of Prospect are participants in CSP.
- (4) Which services were accessed by CSP participants in the electoral division of Prospect.
- (5) How many tenders have been received for the second round of the programme from the electoral division of Prospect.
- (6) Were any Employment National branches CSP providers; if so, which branches.

1140 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did he state in his Federation address on 28 January 2000 that his government remains strongly committed to promoting the better balancing of work and family responsibilities.
- (2) Will he look more sympathetically and creatively at sitting hours for the House of Representatives that better reflect modern family realities, needs and work patterns.
- (3) If so, does he support the establishment of a committee to consider making sitting hours more family friendly, or requesting the Standing Committee on Procedure to consider the issue.

1141 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 1052 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2000, page 13746), how were members of the Rural Transaction Centres (RTC) Panel selected.

- (2) What payments, including travel allowances and sitting fees, are payable to members of the RTC Panel and what are the details of payments made to each Panel member to date.
  - (3) If the Panel does not make recommendations to him, what type of advice does the RTC Panel provide to him.
- 1142 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) At what stage of development by his Department is the proposed Tarcutta truck change over.
  - (2) What is proposed for the change over facility.
- 1143 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In relation to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) 1999/00-2001/02 Corporate Plan, what is the basis of CASA's continuing concern about the level and mix of traffic at some airports without air traffic services.
  - (2) At which busier locations does CASA believe the full provision of a control tower service cannot be justified.
  - (3) What has caused the potential shortage of Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineers (LAMEs) and the deskilling of maintenance facilities through the replacement of LAMEs by appropriately supervised but unlicensed staff.
  - (4) What action is CASA taking to guarantee the proper maintenance of the Australian air fleet through the training of LAMEs.
- 1144 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 1034 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2000, page 13742), what is the estimated cost of duplicating the 129 kilometres of the Hume Highway between Sydney and Albury that is not duplicated.
  - (2) With respect to the Albury upgrade, what are the respective costs of the highway upgrade going through Albury as against bypassing Albury.
- 1145 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Does the Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act specify qualifying airports as those having a public building within a 25 Australian Noise Exposure Forecast (ANEF) contour or a residence within a 30 ANEF contour; if so, does the Act apply to Adelaide Airport.
  - (2) What monitoring of noise has his Department or Airservices Australia undertaken with respect to Adelaide Airport and does it reveal that certain residential areas in Adelaide may have greater exposure to aircraft noise than residents near Sydney Airport, due to their proximity to the airport.
  - (3) Does Airservices Australia regard levels (a) above 25 ANEF as unacceptable for houses, schools and hospitals and (b) 20 to 25 ANEF as not acceptable for residential use; if so, will the Government allow the estimated 4000 Adelaide residences which fall into these ANEF contours assistance under the Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act.

- (4) If not, on what basis does he justify not assisting residents affected by noise from Adelaide Airport while extending assistance to an extra 630 Sydney homes due to their apparent location within the 30 ANEF contour.
  - (5) Does the Adelaide Airport Master Plan produced in November 1999 contain some ANEF estimates for the year 2020 suggesting 4203 residences will be affected by that date; if so, will the situation in Adelaide worsen.
- 1146 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has his Department or the National Road Transport Commission given consideration to all new vehicles, including sedans and station wagons, being supplied with beepers similar to those equipped to vehicles such as buses and trucks which are activated when vehicles are reversing.
- 1147 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How many bridges cross the Murray River between NSW and Victoria.
  - (2) Has an assessment been made by his Department, or discussions held with the NSW and Victorian Governments, concerning the roadworthiness of the bridges; if so, what were the findings.
  - (3) Who has responsibility for the construction and maintenance of each bridge and what proposals are in place to replace or upgrade the bridges by the Federal, NSW and Victorian Governments.
- 1149 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—With respect to Australian Workplace Agreements (AWA's) approved by the Employment Advocate and the Australian Industrial Relations Commission, (a) how many industrial AWA's are there on a industry by industry basis and (b) how many individual AWA's are there for the Commonwealth Government and each State and Territory Government.
- 1152 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—Has the Government received representations from the Victorian Government, local councils, community groups and parliamentary representatives to classify the Scoresby Freeway in Victoria as a road of national importance; if so, when, and what was the nature of the request.
- 1153 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Will he provide details of former Senator Colston's movement records in 1999; if so, what do the records reveal.
- 1154 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What are the names of the two eminent and independent specialist he referred to in his letter to me (reference CRL 99/9723 and Min 195211) dated 25 November 1999 in respect to the medical capacity of former Senator Colston's ability to stand trial.
  - (2) Will he table the independent medical reports in Parliament.
- 1155 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What are the names, occupations and contact details for the consumer representatives on the (a) Insurance Enquiries and Complaints Ltd Board and (b) Insurance Enquiries and Complaints Ltd Claims Review Panel.

- (2) For what reasons are the consumer representatives referred to in part (1) appointed.
- (3) What are the details of any other government authorities, statutory authorities, and non-government organisations to which those persons have been appointed by the Government.
- (4) What is the role and term of these positions.
- (5) Will he provide a list of previous consumer representatives on the Insurance Enquiries and Complaints Ltd Board and the Insurance Enquiries and Complaints Ltd Claims Review Panel.

1156 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) GST update of November which says that the purpose of the price exploitation provisions is not to ensure that all prices are reasonable and that the Commission's role is not to object to profits that are already high.
- (2) What is to stop retailers from hiking up prices before the goods and services tax comes into effect.
- (3) Is the ACCC monitoring prices concerning items on which no wholesale tax is payable.

1157 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article in the Australian Financial Review on 24 January 2000 reporting that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is promising to deliver responses to all non-policy queries within 5 days, down from 28 days under the current Taxpayers' Charter.
- (2) Will the ATO change its Taxpayers' Charter to reflect the change.
- (3) Have other business lines had staff cuts in order to fund the service.
- (4) For how long will the Information Response Service run.
- (5) Does the 1999-2000 Portfolio Budget Statement for the ATO state that the ATO will achieve a drop in staff costs of \$117 702 000 by 2002-2003 whilst increasing staff for the GST; if so, has funding of the service been accounted for in the forecast reduction of staffing costs.

1158 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) expenditure on market research risen from \$556 099 in 1996-97 to \$1 317 375 in 1998-99, as revealed in the appendix 6 of the Commissioner of Taxation's annual report for 1998-99.
- (2) Have the topic or topics of market research been removed since the 1996-97 annual report; if so, why.
- (3) What topic or topics of market research, on a company by company basis similar to that contained in the 1996-97 annual report, were undertaken in (a) 1997-98 and (b) 1998-99.
- (4) Is either the increase in market research, or the reduction of information provided in annual reports, linked to the Government's directive to have all public communication from the ATO vetted by the Ministerial Committee on Government Communications.

1159 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) When was his attention drawn to the two-day conference, “On Cleaning the Parthenon Sculptures”, organised by the British Museum at the end of November 1999.
- (2) Did the proceedings open with a presentation by William St Clair of his findings following the publication of the third edition (1998) of his book *Lord Elgin and the Marbles*.
- (3) Did a Greek team of conservators present their findings to the conference in four linked papers.
- (4) Was the Australian High Commission informed of the conference.
- (5) Has his attention been drawn to the report of the conference in an article entitled “Losing the Marbles” in the *Times Literary Supplement* of 10 December 1999.
- (6) Will he and his Department take account of the proceedings of the conference in reviewing the question of the Parthenon marbles.
- (7) Is he aware of a submission by members of the Australian Parliament to a committee of the British Parliament on the return of the Parthenon marbles.
- (8) Will he or his Department be making a submission to the Committee on behalf of the 300 000 Australians of Greek ancestry.

1160 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Do the findings of the Morbidity of Vietnam Veterans series of reports indicate a significantly higher incidence of a range of very serious illnesses and disabilities among Vietnam veterans and their children than among the general population; if so, why has his Department become increasingly reluctant to grant Vietnam veterans their due entitlements under the Veterans' Entitlements Act.
- (2) Has he instructed his Department to take a tougher line with Vietnam veterans in determining whether they qualify for entitlements under the Veterans' Entitlements Act; if so, will he provide a copy of the instructions.
- (3) Have there been other instructions or directives to departmental officers about determinations for claims made by Vietnam veterans; if so, will he provide a copy of the instructions.
- (4) Has he been instructed by other members of the Government in relation to the matters referred to in parts (2) and (3).
- (5) What was the total number of (a) claims, (b) grants and (c) rejections made for the Disability Pension in (i) each year since 1994-95 and (ii) the period 1 July to 31 December 1999.
- (6) In relation to each part of part (5), how many, and what proportion, were for Vietnam veterans.
- (7) Since 1995, in respect of rejections for the Disability Pension, how many appeals have been made to (a) review officers, (b) the Veterans' Review Board and (c) the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.
- (8) How many, and what proportion, of the instances referred to in part (7) were for Vietnam veterans.



- (9) What were the results of each appeal referred to in part (7), and how many, and what proportion, were for Vietnam veterans.
  - (10) Will he implement each of the recommendations in *Morbidity of Vietnam Veterans: Volume Three: Validation Study*; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 1161 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) How many applicants for Telstra 2 shares who did not receive their full requested allotment had not received a refund of their payment for those shares not made available, as at (a) 31 December 1999 and (b) 24 January 2000.
  - (2) Of those who had not received their refund, for each date referred to in part (1), how many were owed more than (a) \$5000 and (b) \$20 000.
  - (3) Will interest on those refunds be paid to the unsuccessful applicants; if so, (a) at what rate and (b) for what period.
  - (4) How have these monies been dealt with by the Commonwealth in between their receipt and return.
  - (5) Has interest been earned from them by the Commonwealth; if so, what sum has been earned to date.
- 1162 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Trade—What has been the value of Australian exports of (a) pharmaceuticals, (b) medical equipment, (c) provision of medical services to overseas patients in Australia and Australian provision of medical services overseas, (d) tele-medicine and (e) health auxiliary services in (i) 1992-93, (ii) 1993-94, (iii) 1994-95, (iv) 1995-96, (v) 1996-97, (vi) 1997-98 and (vii) 1998-99.
- 1164 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has Mode 8 of the Long Term Operating Plan been introduced at Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport; if not, when will it be introduced.
  - (2) Has a safety case review been conducted in respect to the Mode; if so, (a) who conducted or is conducting the review, (b) what are the terms of reference for the review, (c) did the review reveal any complexities which are, or could become, a safety issue and (d) will those complexities be resolved or addressed prior to the introduction of Mode 8; if so, how.
- 1165 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For the 12 month period ending 30 November 1999, for the time slots of (a) 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. and (b) 10 p.m. to 11 p.m., what runway modes of operation were used at Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport and for what percentage of time were each of those modes of operation adopted.
- 1167 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—To what extent has inflation been taken into account for Commonwealth Legal Aid funding since 1 July 1996.
- 1168 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has any Consumer Price Index (CPI) or Average Weekly Earning (AWE) increase been applied by the Commonwealth Government to Legal Aid funding since 30 June 1996; if not, is he able to say what additional funds would be required in both percentage and financial terms for each of the financial years since 30 June 1996 to factor in both CPI and AWE increases.
- 1169 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In what percentage of cases in 1999 was one or other of the parties not represented by a legal practitioner in the (a) Family Court, (b) Federal Court of Australia and (c) High Court of Australia.
- (2) Has any research been undertaken as to (a) the settlement rate in respect to cases in which one or other of the parties is unrepresented and (b) the average length of cases in which one or other of the parties is unrepresented.
- (3) If so, what does the research reveal; if research has not been undertaken will he arrange for an appropriate study and report to Parliament.

1170 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Do all veterans' appeals which have merit receive legal aid funding; if not, what criteria is applied in determining which veterans' appeals are funded.

1171 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a letter, dated 25 November 1999, from the office of the Assistant Treasurer to the Chief Executive Officer of Sports Medicine Australia concerning the application of the GST to exercise physiology.
- (2) Does the letter state, in part, that in terms of the emerging professions of exercise science or exercise physiology these do not meet the requirements in the legislation that they be 'commonly used' health services.
- (3) What is the legislative definition of a 'commonly used' health service.
- (4) Which sections of the GST legislation or regulations use the term 'commonly used' with regard to GST-free health services.
- (5) Will exercise physiology services provided by exercise physiologists be GST-free.
- (6) Will exercise physiology services administered by a medical or allied health practitioner, for example, a physiotherapist, attract the GST; if not, why not.
- (7) Will exercise physiology services provided by an exercise physiologist on referral from a medical practitioner or specialist be GST-free; if not, why not.
- (8) Has the decision not to grant GST-free status to the services of exercise physiologists been reviewed; if so, by whom and what was the result of the review.

1172 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to concerns raised by Bass Strait Oil Management Limited about the likely impact of the proposed entity taxation system on investors in the Bass Strait Oil Trust – a widely held, listed public trust which distributes all its income to unit holders.
- (2) Is he aware that people who have invested in the Bass Strait Oil Trust have done so on the basis of an entitlement to receive a return of their capital over 10 years and that all income and capital gains which they may derive from the investment is fully taxed in their hands.
- (3) Were investments like the Bass Strait Oil Trust intended to be caught by the entity taxation system; if so, why.

- (4) Will the Government expand the collective investment vehicle criteria so that investments like the Bass Strait Oil Trust will be excluded from the entity tax regime; if not, why not.

1173 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) What criteria are used for the issue of hearing aids to veterans.
- (2) Is there an opportunity to personally tailor hearing aids for those veterans who require a different aid.
- (3) Is he able to say whether the US has recently, under the Eligibility Reform Act 1996, allowed its veterans to customise the requirements above standard issue hearing aid; if so, will the Government do likewise.

*16 February 2000*

1175 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—

- (1) What will be the total cost to the Office of Indigenous Policy (OIP) for compliance with the Government's Goods and Services Tax.
- (2) What sum has been, or will be, spent in each budget year on GST compliance costs by OIP.
- (3) From which programs will the cost of this GST compliance be found.
- (4) Will the Government be providing extra funding to OIP to cover these GST compliance costs.
- (5) Has OIP estimated the cost to Commonwealth funded Indigenous organisations for GST compliance; if so, what are the names of these organisations and what are their individual GST compliance costs.
- (6) Has OIP estimated the cost to non-Commonwealth funded Indigenous organisations for GST compliance; if so, what are the names of these organisations and what are their individual GST compliance costs.
- (7) Has OIP estimated the full impact of the GST, including compliance costs, in its areas of responsibility.

1181 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—

- (1) What will be the total cost to the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation (CAR) for compliance with the Government's Goods and Services Tax.
- (2) What sum has been, or will be, spent in each budget year on GST compliance costs by CAR.
- (3) From which programs will the cost of this GST compliance be found.
- (4) Will the Government be providing extra funding to CAR to cover these GST compliance costs.
- (5) Has CAR estimated the full impact of the GST, including compliance costs, in its areas of responsibility.

1182 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) Did the term of appointment of Rear Admiral Ken Doolan as the Service member of the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal expire on 27 March 1999.
- (2) Has a replacement Service member been officially appointed to the Tribunal; if so, on what date did the new appointment take effect.
- (3) Why was the Government unable to fill the position of Service member in a timely manner.
- (4) Did the appointment of Commissioner Patricia Leary as a member of the Tribunal expire on 6 February 1999.
- (5) Was the position formerly occupied by Commissioner Leary (a) vacant between 7 February and 2 May 1999, (b) occupied on an acting basis by Commissioner Leary from 3 May to 2 July 1999 and (c) occupied by Commissioner Leary for a further 12 month term that commenced on 5 July 1999.
- (6) What is the explanation for this sequence of events.
- (7) Was the work of the Tribunal disrupted by vacancies involving 2 of its 3 part-time members; if so, what are the details of the disruptions that resulted.

1183 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 391 (*Hansard*, 23 March 1999, page 4143), has a written guidance instructing Defence commanders not to send members under 18 years to an area of hostility except in unavoidable circumstances been issued; if so, on what date was the guidance issued and what was the text of the instruction.
- (2) If a written guidance has not been issued, what is the reason for the failure to do so.
- (3) Have personnel under 18 years been deployed to East Timor as part of the INTERFET force despite stated policy; if so, how many personnel have been deployed by (a) the Army, (b) the Navy and (c) the Air Force.

1184 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Did the Republic of Korea (ROK) offer in November 1951 to award to Commonwealth personnel participating in the Korean War the ROK War Service Medal, also known as the ROK Star.
- (2) Has he written to a number of organisations indicating that Commonwealth authorities never accepted the offer of the medal by the ROK and that until recently the Department of Defence was unaware of its existence.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to a letter from the Defence Attache of the ROK Embassy in Australia to the Australian National Veterans' Association on 25 February 1993 indicating that the Korean War Medal was accepted by all countries participating in the Korean War; if so, is he able to say whether the statement by the Defence Attache is correct.

- (4) If the statement by the Defence Attache is considered to be incorrect, which of the participating Commonwealth countries did not accept the offer of the medal to their personnel.
  - (5) Has the Government officially approved the wearing of the medal by Australian veterans; if not, on what basis has it refused to do so.
- 1185 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Will the Government place Essendon Airport, Vic., up for sale again; if so, when.
  - (2) How did the proposals received for leasehold sale not sufficiently satisfy the Government's sales objective on the last occasion.
  - (3) What will be the Government's sales objectives when Essendon Airport is next placed on the market and will they differ from the Government's sales objective on the last occasion.
  - (4) Will bidders be permitted to redevelop the site, or any part of it, for residential purposes.
- 1186 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Are university research scholarships included in the means testing of age pensions.
  - (2) Is this practice consistent with the Government's commitment to lifelong learning, and in particular, third age learning among the nation's senior citizens.
- 1187 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is the Government taking steps to achieve equality of education and training in music and the arts for the Western Sydney area.
  - (2) Is the Government taking steps to encourage a culture of private philanthropy and benefaction to the arts, particularly in Western Sydney.
  - (3) What steps is the Government taking to encourage an appreciation and patronage of the arts by the youth in Western Sydney.
  - (4) What short term and long term benefits would accrue to the community at large by an increase in the patronage and appreciation of the arts in Western Sydney.
  - (5) Does the Government have proposals for increased encouragement and financial involvement in the promotion of arts and culture in Western Sydney; if so, what.
  - (6) Are there imbalances in funding of, or participation in, the arts and culture in Western Sydney; if so, what steps is the Government taking to correct the imbalances.
- 1188 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Trade—
- (1) Has his Department developed an inventory of barriers to the export of health goods and services.
  - (2) If so, what action has been taken to overcome the barriers.

- (3) What progress has been made as a consequence of those initiatives.
- (4) Has the inventory been updated in recent years; if so, what is the current departmental assessment of barriers to the export of health goods and services.

1189 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Will he rule out the future use of Essendon Airport, Vic., for large passenger aircraft as was recently mooted by Virgin and Impulse Airlines.

*17 February 2000*

1191 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Is it a fact that (a) the Labor-held electoral division of Fowler has been provided with one additional job network site under recent tender announcements and (b) the Liberal-held electoral division of Parramatta has less than half the unemployment rate of the electoral division of Fowler but has been provided with six additional job network sites; if so, why.
- (2) Does Employment National have job network sites in the electoral division of Fowler; if not, why not.

1192 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What capacity do Senators and Members have to seek assistance from the Office of Parliamentary Counsel (OPC) in the drafting of private member's bills.
- (2) When OPC provides services to draft private member's bills, is this done with his knowledge and consent.
- (3) Has he given consent to OPC assisting with the drafting of private member's bills since he became Attorney-General; if so, (a) for which bills, (b) on what basis was approval given to OPC and (c) what was the cost of the assistance.

1193 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Does Telstra have independent power generation capacity to supply its telephone exchanges in Melbourne; if so, (a) how many generators does it have and (b) what is the electricity supply capacity of the generators.
- (2) Did Telstra use its power generation capacity on 3 February 2000 when Victorian households and industry experienced power blackouts; if not, why not.
- (3) Did Telstra receive a request from either the National Electricity Management Company or any Victorian electricity supply or distribution authority to use its independent generation capacity.

1194 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Further to the Australian National Audit Office's (ANAO) report into Commonwealth electricity procurement, what Commonwealth agencies with eligible sites are not participating in the national electricity market.
- (2) Is he able to say why Commonwealth agencies are not taking advantage of the savings that the ANAO report believes exist.

1195 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Did the Minister write an article in the *Australian Financial Review* on 14 January 2000 in which he referred to electronic democracy.
- (2) Is the Minister able to say whether the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) is studying new overseas voting technology, with the aim of providing Australians with the option of using such technology to vote in Federal and other elections run by the AEC.
- (3) Is the Minister able to say whether the AEC plans to trial the use of the Internet to allow people to vote in smaller fora, including votes by federal employees for agency agreements.
- (4) Does the Minister support the AEC work to develop electronic democracy.
- (5) Is the Minister able to say whether voters in Alaskan primaries had the option to vote for US Presidential candidates via the Internet.
- (6) Is the Minister able to say whether voters in the May 2000 British council elections will have the option of voting through their home computers, as well as through mobile phones offering Internet access, and if such electronic democracy is successful, it will be used in the next general election.
- (7) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the report by the California Internet Voting Task Force, *A Report on the Feasibility of Internet Voting, January 2000*, which was established by the Californian Secretary of State to study the feasibility of using the Internet to conduct elections in California.
- (8) What support is the Minister giving to the development of electronic democracy in Australia, particularly through the Government's policy on datacasting.

1196 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 1030 (*Hansard*, 16 February 2000, page 13596), of the number of studies undertaken over the years into the feasibility of the Alice Springs to Darwin rail project, on which study is the Government relying to justify its \$165 million investment.
- (2) What cost benefit outcomes were forecast in the study identified in part (1).
- (3) How many of the 7000 jobs expected to be generated in regional Australia will be generated (a) in the construction phase and (b) on an ongoing basis.
- (4) What estimates does the Government have for the potential of the project to improve Australia's export opportunities.
- (5) Is it a fact that if the project has a \$480 million public investment in it, then the average public cost per job is \$69 000; if so, how does the average cost compare with alternative job generating projects in regional Australia, including through improved public investment in education.

1197 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the terms of the Department of Finance's December 1999 decision to sell the heritage listed Cameron Offices in

Belconnen, ACT, designed by internationally recognised Australian architect John Andrews.

- (2) Will the sale and redevelopment of the Cameron Offices site involve the demolition of more than two thirds of the heritage listed offices.
- (3) Does section 30 of the Australian Heritage Commission Act require Ministers to ensure Government decisions do not adversely affect places on the Register of the National Estate unless there are no feasible and prudent alternatives to those decisions.
- (4) Does the Commonwealth Consultation paper the Minister released in April 1999 titled *A National Strategy for Australia's Heritage Places* state that all levels of Government and government agencies must demonstrate leadership in protecting, conserving, promoting and managing heritage values and that the determination of significance should be based solely on heritage values and be separated from management decisions.
- (5) Has the Australian Heritage Commission's preferred outcome for the Cameron Offices always been the retention of the entire complex.
- (6) Has his attention been drawn to the Minister for Finance and Administration's repeated statements that redevelopment of the Cameron Offices site is aimed largely at assisting the ACT's building and commercial markets.
- (7) Is he aware of a consultants' report prepared for the Department of Finance and Administration which found that the Cameron Offices could be brought up to the required standard without impacting greatly on the heritage significance of the complex and still provide significant work for the ACT building industry; if not, why not.
- (8) In light of parts (1) to (6), if the proposal outlined in part (7) is not followed, how will the Government be complying with its responsibilities under the Australian Heritage Commission Act and adhering to its policy goals as set out in the *National Strategy for Heritage Places* document.

1198 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) Has funding been provided by his Department to the Convention of Ambulance Authorities, also known as the Convention of Ambulance Authorities of Australia and New Zealand, for any purpose.
- (2) If so, has this funding been provided for, but not limited to, the establishment of a body provisionally titled (a) Ambulance Australia, (b) Australian Ambulance Board, (c) Australian Ambulance Education Council or (c) Australian Ambulance Registration Board, or similar names.
- (3) What are the purposes of the proposed bodies.
- (4) Under whose auspices are the bodies to be incorporated.
- (5) To whom will the bodies report.
- (6) On what basis were requests for funding made.
- (7) When were applications for funding made.
- (8) What sum was sought, and what sum has been provided for the proposals.
- (9) Under which scheme administered by his Department did the bodies qualify for funding.



- (10) Is he able to say (a) who currently provides funding to the Convention of Ambulance Authorities, also known as the Convention of Ambulance Authorities of Australia and New Zealand and (b) to whom does it report.
- (11) Are any of the proposed or existing bodies to act as an Industry Training Advisory Board, or have a similar function; if so, when are the bodies to be formed and become operational.

*6 March 2000*

- 1199 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What have been the sources, titles and dates of blockbuster exhibitions conducted by the National Gallery of Australia since the answer to question No. 2380 (*Hansard*, 1 December 1997, page 11735).
- 1200 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What have been the destinations, titles and dates of overseas exhibitions to which the National Gallery of Australia has contributed since 1990.
- 1201 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the price of the drug known as Methal Sal, which is contained in the pharmaceutical listing used by doctors.
  - (2) Are there alternatives to that drug; if so, what are the pharmaceutical price listings of those drugs.
  - (3) Are there are cheaper price alternatives to that drug; if not, will he remove the premium pricing, which has been attached to it.
  - (4) In what circumstances does the Government issue a reference authority approval for Methal Sal.
  - (5) What is the average length of time it takes a patient to receive approval for a reference authority in respect of Methal Sal.
- 1202 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the price of the drug known as Brondecon, which is contained in the pharmaceutical listing used by doctors.
  - (2) Are there alternatives to that drug; if so, what are the pharmaceutical price listings of those drugs.
  - (3) Are there are cheaper price alternatives to that drug; if not, will he remove the premium pricing, which has been attached to it.
  - (4) In what circumstances does the Government issue a reference authority approval for Brondecon.
  - (5) What is the average length of time it takes a patient to receive approval for a reference authority in respect of Brondecon.
- 1203 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the price of the drug known as Pepsidine, which is contained in the pharmaceutical listing used by doctors.
  - (2) Are there alternatives to that drug; if so, what are the pharmaceutical price listings of those drugs.

- (3) Are there are cheaper price alternatives to that drug; if not, will he remove the premium pricing, which has been attached to it.
- (4) In what circumstances does the Government issue a reference authority approval for Pepsidine.
- (5) What is the average length of time it takes a patient to receive approval for a reference authority in respect of Pepsidine.

1204 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) To what extent has the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme replaced entitlements previously available to veterans under the Veterans' Entitlements Act (VEA).
- (2) In respect to each instance where an entitlement has been replaced, what is the Government's rationale for replacing those entitlements which were previously available under the VEA.

1205 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Has the Government removed items from the list of medications available to sick veterans which were previously available on the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, if so, which items.
- (2) Will veterans now have to pay the full price for those medications.

1206 **MR HOLLIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to an invention called a Face Emplaced Services Support device, designed for use in the underground coal mining industry (Patent Application Number PCT/AU92/00555 and PCT/AU95/00038).
- (2) If so, who (a) has owned the intellectual property and (b) is the current owner.
- (3) Are any Australian and international companies involved in underground mining using the Face Emplaced Services Support device; if so, which companies.
- (4) What is the estimated value of the intellectual property to Australia.

1207 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—How many persons were residing in boarding houses in each electoral division at the last Census.

1208 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women—

- (1) How many grants have been provided to the (a) National Council of Women of Australia, (b) YWCA and (c) Federation of Business and Professional Women.
- (2) How many, and which State or National organisations are affiliated with each organisation.
- (3) What is the cost of membership or affiliation with each organisation.
- (4) Are conditions placed on membership or affiliation; if so, what.

1209 **MR McLEAY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Which Ministers, Members and Senators have additional office space provided by the Commonwealth other than their allocation for an electorate office.
  - (2) Where is the additional office space located.
- 1210 **MR McLEAY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the estimated total cost of the Government's media campaign on private health insurance and what is the breakdown of those costs.
  - (2) In relation to the campaign, what is the breakdown of expenditure between the various types of media, including television, radio and print.
- 1211 **MR McLEAY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Has he instituted a practice of having State Liberal and National Party Members of Parliament represent him at citizenship ceremonies; if so, when did he institute the practice.
  - (2) At which citizenship ceremonies on Australia Day 2000 was he represented by State Liberal and National Party Members of Parliament.
- 1212 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Is he able to say on what date the board of Employment National (EN) decided to hand back its existing Job Network 1 Intensive Assistance contracts to the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, and for what reasons the Board made the decision.
  - (2) Did he or his Department conduct an assessment with respect to the financial impact of this decision on EN's business, cash flow, and capital value; if so, what were its findings.
  - (3) Did the Government provide EN with any payment or consideration for returning the contracts; if so, what were the details.
  - (4) What was the estimated value of the returned contracts and how many EN clients are being transferred to existing providers as a result of the decision to return the contracts.
  - (5) What impact has the decision to return the contracts had on EN's ability to retain its offices and staff resources.
  - (6) To what extent are decisions to close EN offices and retrench staff related to this decision.
  - (7) Before making this decision, was the EN Board, his office or his Department aware that Drake, another large provider, had decided to continue with its Job Network 1 Intensive Assistance contracts in spite of failing in the Job Network 2 tender round.
  - (8) Was he informed of the decision to hand back contracts before it was taken; if so, (a) what advice was tendered by him to the EN Board and (b) did he instruct, direct or encourage the board to hand back the contracts; if so, what were the reasons for his decision to instruct the board to hand back the contracts.
  - (9) Was the Minister for Employment Services involved in making the decision to hand back the contracts.

- (10) Was the General Manager of Employment National, Mr Rod Halstead, consulted or asked for his advice in regard to the decision to hand back the contracts.
  - (11) Has his attention been drawn to Mr Halstead's statement in Senate estimates committee hearings that the decision to hand back contracts may have been made to assist other providers in the Job Network; if so, was one of the factors behind the handing back of contracts to provide a cash stream to and prop-up other Job network providers.
- 1213 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What action has been taken by the Government to implement *Australia Cycling - The National Strategy 1999-2004*, to promote cycling and the safety of cyclists.
  - (2) Did the Government give consideration to the strategy when preparing the National Road Safety Strategy; if so, what.
  - (3) Were studies conducted on the impact of the new Australian Road Rule 119 on cyclists; if so, are the studies available for public consultation; if so, where.
  - (4) How many cyclists were injured or killed at roundabouts each year since 1995.
- 1214 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What is the status of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport developed by the Disability Discrimination Act Transport Standards Taskforce and endorsed, with some modifications, by the Australian Transport Council in April 1999.
  - (2) What steps have been taken by the Government to finalise the standards.
  - (3) What action has been taken by the Government to implement the standards.
  - (4) Which Departments or agencies are responsible for implementing the standards.
  - (5) What is the timetable for implementing the standards.
- 1215 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Do Taxation Statistics 1997-98 on page 15 state that the gap between men's and women's earnings has been increasing over time; if so, can he provide detailed information concerning changes in both men's and women's earnings since 1995.
- 1216 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is it stated on page 38 of Taxation Statistics 1997-98 that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) conducted about 80 reviews of the activities of selected taxpayers to determine whether their activities constituted a business or hobby, and that as a result of these reviews, tax and penalties of approximately \$750,000 was raised, and more than 30% of these taxpayers agreed to cease claiming losses in future returns.
  - (2) How many of the 80 reviews led to additional tax or penalties being raised.
  - (3) Will the ATO increase the number of reviews of taxpayers claiming business losses in future; if so, by how many.

1217 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—How many contracted places for Intensive Assistance did the Employment National (EN) sites at (a) Greensborough and (b) Preston hand back as a consequence of EN board's decision not to continue with its Job Network ESC1 Intensive Assistance contracts.

1218 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) For each year from 1994-95 to 1998-99 what was the total expenditure on hospitals.
- (2) What (a) sum and (b) percentage of the total was covered by private health funds in each year.
- (3) What was the Total Health Price Index in each year.
- (4) What was the Government Expenditure on Hospital and Clinical Services Index in each year.
- (5) What was the Hospital and Medical Services CPI in each year.
- (6) What were the ratios of benefits paid to contribution incomes for private health insurance funds in each year.
- (7) What percentage of households in each of the income quintiles had private health insurance in each year.
- (8) Using constant dollars, what were the top hospital premiums and the average hospital premiums in each year.
- (9) What was the ratio of reserves to benefits payable for the private health insurance funds in each year.
- (10) What was the number and percentage of admissions to private and public hospitals in each year.
- (11) What was the number and percentage of hospital bed days in private and public hospitals in each year.
- (12) What was the number and percentage of separations from private and public hospitals in each year.
- (13) What were the most common diagnoses for those admitted to private and public hospitals in each year.
- (14) What were the most common procedures carried out in private and public hospitals in each year.

*7 March 2000*

1219 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Government committed to providing regional and remote area radio listeners who have a print handicap with the same level of broadcasting service provided to those in metropolitan areas; if so, how.
- (2) Has the Minister investigated the pricing proposal from Radio for all Australians Association Inc. to broadcast from one fully equipped studio by satellite.
- (3) When will the Government make a final decision on funding for the proposal.

- 1220 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In attempting to optimise the provision of respite to areas affected by air traffic in and around Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport through The Advanced Runway Decision Advisory System will air traffic controllers have regard to the inconvenience of the time of overflights and in particular the distress caused by flights late at night and early in the morning and during recreational times on weekends.
  - (2) If so, to what extent will these issues be factored into the relevant calculations.
- 1221 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—Further to the answer to question No. 196 (*Hansard*, 11 February 1999, page 2636), what was the outcome of the Government's review of the entitlement of war widows to have their veterans' affairs entitlements restored in the event of dissolution of a subsequent marriage or the death of a subsequent spouse.
- 1222 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Has the Australian Defence Force transported to East Timor, or met the transport costs of, civilian Australian personnel involved in the distribution of medical supplies to refugee camps and similar Timorese population centres; if so, were any personnel less than 18 years of age; if so, what are the details.
- 1223 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) Following the signing of the Eden Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) in August 1999, what level of funding, if any, has the Commonwealth formally approved towards proposed employment and industry development initiatives in (a) the Eden recovery mill, (b) the export of pulplogs from Bombala plantations, (c) commercial regrowth thinning, (d) sustainable sawlog production thinning and fertilising, (e) the regrowth timber resource industry, (f) Aboriginal community development and (g) training in environmental management.
  - (2) What level of funding, if any, has been spent to date on each of the proposed employment and industry development initiatives referred to in part (1).
- 1224 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) Further to the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) of November 1997, what sum of Commonwealth funding has been provided to date for (a) program to protect conservation values on private land in support of the CAR reserve system, (b) implementation of new intensive forest management initiatives, (c) implementation of employment and industry development measures, (d) road infrastructure, (e) tourism infrastructure and (f) new reserve management.
  - (2) What are the details of the intensive forest management initiatives that have been funded under the RFA.
  - (3) What are the details of the employment and industry development measures that have been funded under the RFA.
  - (4) What is the estimated sum, if any, of further Commonwealth funding for each of the categories of expenditure referred in part (1) in (a) 1999-2000 and (b) 2000-01.
- 1225 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is there anything to prevent the Commonwealth selling former defence land subject to conditions, restrictions or specifications that bind the buyer; if so, what is the source of the limitation and is it governed by legislation, regulation, or policy.
- (2) If there is nothing to prevent the Commonwealth selling former defence land, are there limits to what conditions or specifications can be placed on the sale.
- (3) Has former defence land been sold subject to any conditions, specifications or restrictions; if so, what conditions have been applied to the sale of blocks of land since 1980, and on which blocks were the conditions attached.

1226 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What goods and services to be purchased for The Lodge and Kirribilli House will be subject to the GST from 1 July 2000.
- (2) What sum of GST will be paid on those goods and services.
- (3) Are goods and services purchased by his Department for The Lodge and Kirribilli House exempt from GST.
- (4) If not, is his Department entitled to a rebate on the GST paid on goods and services used in The Lodge and Kirribilli House; if so, what sum is the rebate as a percentage of the total GST paid on goods and services for The Lodge and Kirribilli House.

1227 **MR HORNE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Is it a fact that the Oban Nursing Home in Raymond Terrace, NSW, owned by Moran Health Care, failed to meet 12 out of 31 national minimum standards in 1998, and despite continued promises to upgrade and rebuild Oban Nursing Home her Department granted a 12 month extension to Moran Health care in February 2000.
- (2) Has Oban Nursing Home operated since December 1998 with only 49 beds while it is licensed for 68 beds.
- (3) Have persons who have lived in the Raymond Terrace Community all their lives been forced to leave the area to find aged care because Oban Nursing Home is operating 19 beds below capacity.
- (4) Does she accept that persons have the right to aged care services in their own community.
- (5) Is she able to give an assurance that Moran Health Care will not be granted permission to remove aged care beds from Raymond Terrace and will be required to upgrade the Oban facility and restore its 68 bed licences.

1228 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Did his Department distribute to each Member of Parliament a number of colour posters of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.
- (2) How many colour posters were distributed to each Member of Parliament.
- (3) Were the posters provided to other persons, if so, (a) who and (b) how many copies did they receive.
- (4) How many copies were produced in total.
- (5) What was the cost to produce and distribute the posters.

- (6) From which budget was funding sourced.
- (7) Why was the poster produced and distributed.

1229 **MR KERR:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he able to say how many full time equivalent staff were employed in (a) his Department, (b) the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, (c) the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, (d) the Department of Defence, (e) the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs, (f) the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (g) the Department of Finance and Administration, (h) the Department of Health and Aged Care, (i) the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, (j) the Department of Industry, Science and Resources, (k) the Department of Transport and Regional Services, (l) the Department of Veterans' Affairs, (m) Airservices Australia, (n) the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, (o) the Australian Bureau of Statistics, (p) the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, (q) the Australian Federal Police, (r) the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, (s) the Australian Sports Commission, (t) the Australian Taxation Office, (u) Centrelink, (v) the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, (w) the Civil Aviation and Safety Authority, (x) Medibank Private, (y) the National Library of Australia, (z) the National Museum of Australia and (aa) the Office of Asset Sales and Information Technology Outsourcing in the provision of legal services, including legal advice, litigation, representation and legislative services, during 1998-99.
- (2) Is he able to say what were the salary costs of those staff in 1998-99, itemised by Department or agency.
- (3) How many legal services staff from his Department were based in each Department or agency referred to in part (1) in 1998-99.
- (4) What were the salary costs of those staff referred to in part (3) in 1998-99, itemised by Department or agency.
- (5) Is he able to say what were the costs of legal services provided under contract to each Department or agency referred to in part (1) in 1998-99.

*8 March 2000*

1230 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Which CSIRO properties have been recommended for sale as a result of the recent CSIRO property review.
- (2) What is the current estimated book value of each property recommended for sale.
- (3) What is the current estimated annual rent level likely to be required for each property recommended for sale.
- (4) What is the current estimated annual rent expressed as a percentage of the current estimated book value for each property recommended for sale.
- (5) If the property sales go ahead will funds previously marked for research be used to pay property leases and rents; if so, will the Commonwealth adequately compensate the CSIRO budget if any CSIRO property sales do



have a negative effect on the CSIRO's overall financial position and available research funds.

- (6) What benefits to the Commonwealth will result from the sale of CSIRO property.
- 1231 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—Has she or her Department received complaints concerning the operations, management or quality of patient care in nursing homes in the electoral division of Swan; if so, (a) how many have been received, (b) what nursing homes were involved, (c) when were complaints received and (d) what action or investigation has taken place to rectify any concern.
- 1232 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) Were four employment agencies in Sydney which were successful in providing specialist services for people with a disability, particularly mental health problems, not awarded contracts in the second round allocation of Jobs Network 2 contracts.
  - (2) Is it a fact that as a result of this decision, there is no specialist Jobs Network provider in Sydney for people with mental health problems.
  - (3) Are specialist Job Network providers required in Sydney to assist people with a mental health problems.
  - (4) Does the Government accept the recognition by the World Health Organisation that mental health problems constitute a disability.

*9 March 2000*

- 1233 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a new report called “Western Sydney Orbital Travel Time Survey” prepared the NRMA in NSW in relation to the need for the proposed construction of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System.
  - (2) Will the report be given full consideration when making decisions on the construction timetable for the Western Sydney Orbital Road System.
  - (3) When will he announce a decision to commence construction of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System.
- 1234 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1033 (*Hansard*, 8 March 2000, page 14011) concerning the 1999 Regional Australia Summit, (a) to whom were payments made as facilitators and (b) what sum (i) in total and (ii) including travel allowances and travel costs, was paid to each facilitator, including the Summit Chair, the Rt Hon. Ian Sinclair.
  - (2) Why were all Coalition Caucus members invited to the Regional Summit Dinner while other Member of the House of Representatives and Senate were not invited.
  - (3) Who authorised the invitations to the dinner.
  - (4) Which Members of the House of Representatives and Senate attended the dinner.

- (5) What sum was paid to the persons referred to in part (4) for travel allowances, airfares, cars and taxis and under which travel entitlement was the sum paid.

1235 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) Following the signing of the East Gippsland Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) on 3 February 1997, what industry development funding, if any, has the Commonwealth provided to the region to encourage (a) the introduction of new technology, (b) value adding, (c) utilisation of regrowth timber for sawn products, (d) thinning of regrowth forests, and (e) extraction of residual wood.
- (2) In line with the provisions of the RFA, has the Commonwealth provided financial assistance to Victoria for the development of sustainability indicators and work on endangered species for the region; if so, what (a) sum has been provided and (b) are the details of the work that has been funded.
- (3) Will firms and workers in the region be able to access Forest Industry Structural Adjustment Package funding under the Victorian Hardwood Timber Industry Development and Restructuring Program; if so, what sum of Commonwealth money has been earmarked for the region.

1236 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) Following the signing of the North East Victoria Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) on 23 August 1999, what total sum of Commonwealth Forest Industry Structural Adjustment Package funding has been earmarked for the region.
- (2) What sum, if any, of Commonwealth funding has been provided to date to the timber industry and workers in the region for (a) industry development assistance, (b) business exit assistance, (c) worker assistance, (d) rescheduling assistance and (e) industry positioning and research on sustainable forest management.
- (3) What is the estimated sum, if any, of further Commonwealth funding for each of the categories of expenditure referred to in part (2) in (a) 1999-2000 and (b) 2000-01.

1237 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) Following the signing of the Central Highlands Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) on 27 March 1998, what total sum of Commonwealth Forest Industry Structural Adjustment Package funding has been earmarked for the region.
- (2) What sum, if any, of Commonwealth funding has been provided to date to the timber industry and workers in the region for (a) industry development assistance, (b) business exit assistance, (c) worker assistance, (d) rescheduling assistance and (e) industry positioning and research on sustainable forest management.
- (3) What is the estimated sum, if any, of further Commonwealth funding for each of the categories of expenditure referred to in part (2) in (a) 1999-2000 and (b) 2000-01.

1238 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—When judging claims regarding compensation for detriment caused by defective administration, does the ATO

measure its performance against benchmarks; if so, what is the benchmark for an acceptable time to complete an audit on (a) individual taxpayers and (b) two individual taxpayers in a partnership arrangement.

- 1239 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—Has the ATO's Problem Resolution Services/Compensation Remedies section in Perth been relocated; if so, (a) when did the section move, (b) what structure or process will be used now and (c) what safeguards are in place to ensure that case officers are not dealing with cases where they are part of the complaint.
- 1240 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What criteria are used for an overall test of reasonableness when the ATO states that the sole delay for the processing of an amended assessment was due to the problems experienced with its 1998 computer processing system.
  - (2) Is 11 months a reasonable period of time for an amended assessment to be entered into the 1998 computer system; if not, what time period is considered to be reasonable.
- 1241 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Does his Department require a statement to confirm a parent's residency status if they were not born in Australia, in order to allow their child to apply for an Australian passport; if so, does his Department charge a fee for issuing the statement; if so, (a) what sum is charged and (b) will he provide a breakdown of the components of the fee.
- 1242 **MR KERR:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is the Ombudsman able to disregard the provisions and requirements of Commonwealth legislation, including the provisions and requirements of the National Health Act at paragraph 39B(1)(c); if so, when and in what circumstances is it appropriate to do so.
  - (2) Did the Ombudsman disregard a mistake of fact on departmental files regarding the site or location of 16 additional beds transferred from Balwyn to Glen Waverley by means of an Approval-in-Principle to transfer beds, dated 27 July 1988; if so, why.
- 1243 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) How many nursing homes and aged person hostels are there within the electoral division of Canberra.
  - (2) How many nursing homes and aged person hostels are operated by (a) private companies and (b) church organisations in the electoral division of Canberra.
  - (3) What are the names of the (a) private companies and (b) church organisations operating nursing homes and aged person hostels in the electoral division of Canberra.
  - (4) How many spot checks have been carried out on nursing homes and aged person hostels in the electoral division of Canberra operated by (a) private companies and (b) church organisations in (i) 1999-2000, (ii) 1998-99, (iii) 1997-98 and (iv) 1996-97.

- (5) What sum of Commonwealth funding did each nursing home and aged person hostel within the electoral division of Canberra receive in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 1998-99, (c) 1997-98 and (d) 1996-97.
- (6) How many beds are there in each nursing home and aged person hostel.
- (7) How many beds are being used in each nursing home and aged person hostel.
- (8) How many beds were there in each nursing home and aged person hostel in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1997-98 and (c) 1996-97.
- (9) How many persons are on waiting lists for each nursing home and aged person hostel.
- (10) Were complaints concerning nursing homes and aged person hostels within the electoral division of Canberra lodged with the Aged Care Standard and Accreditation Agency in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 1998-99, (c) 1997-98 and (d) 1996-97; if so, (i) how many and (ii) how many spot checks resulted from the complaints in each year.

1244 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Government introducing a Diesel and Alternative Fuels Grants Scheme to offset the impact of the GST on diesel fuel use in prescribed areas in non-metropolitan Australia.
- (2) What is the estimated annual cost of the scheme and how will grants be distributed.
- (3) Is the Government using section 96 of the Constitution as its head of power for this scheme; if not, under what Constitutional power is the scheme operating.
- (4) What other GST concessions is the Government considering for prescribed areas.

1245 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is it a fact that to date 137 countries have signed the Ottawa Treaty and 91 countries have ratified it; if so, is he able to say which countries.
- (2) Is he also able to say which countries in the Asia Pacific region are yet to sign or ratify the treaty.
- (3) What steps has he taken, or will he take, to encourage those countries to sign and ratify the treaty.
- (4) Did Australia promise \$100 million to rid the world of landmines; if so, what are the details.

1246 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) On the most recent data, how many nursing homes receiving Commonwealth funding are there within the electoral division of Chisholm.
- (2) What is the name and address of each centre.
- (3) How many residents are there at each centre.
- (4) What sum in Commonwealth funding did each centre receive in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98 and (d) 1998-99.
- (5) What is the estimated sum that each centre will receive in 1999-2000.

- (6) On the most recent data, how many spot checks have been made at each of the nursing homes since 1998.
- (7) Have complaints been recorded with the Aged Care Accreditation Agency about any of those nursing homes since 1998; if so, (a) how many, (b) what has been the outcome and (c) how many have been resolved to the satisfaction of all parties.

*13 March 2000*

**MS HALL:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. \*1247 - \*1248)—Will the Government's decision to allow the GST to be imposed on the rent paid by permanent residents living in residential and relocatable home parks cause significant hardship to those persons; if so, (a) why are those residents being treated differently to other Australians who pay residential rentals and (b) will the Government compensate residential park residents to place them in the same position as other residential renters.

\*1247 **MS HALL:** To ask the Treasurer.

\*1248 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Community Services.

\*1249 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many employers are surveyed to confirm that the job matching fee paid to Job Network providers is legitimate.
- (2) What criteria are used to determine a job outcome under the current system and how do they vary from the previous system.
- (3) Is it a fact that if an unemployed person finds his or her own job the Job Network provider with whom the person is registered receives a job outcome or the credit for that person finding a job.

\*1250 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) How many staff are employed in the Aged Care Complaints Resolution Unit in each State and Territory.
- (2) How many complaints is each unit investigating.
- (3) How many complaints is each complaints officer investigating in each unit.

\*1251 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Was 28 February 2000 the first day of the Job Network Employment Services Contract 2.
- (2) What was the physical location of each of the Job Network sites in (a) Epping, (b) Lalor, (c) Thomastown, (d) Greensborough and (e) Bundoora in Victoria on 28 February 2000.

\*1252 **MR CREAN:** To ask the Treasurer—How many income units are covered by each level of private income listed under each cameo published in *Tax Reform: not a new tax, a new tax system* at pages 177-202.

\*1253 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) On the most recent data, how many nursing homes receiving Commonwealth funding are there within the electoral division of Cowan.
- (2) What is the name and address of each centre.
- (3) How many residents are there at each centre.

- (4) What sum in Commonwealth funding did each centre receive in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98 and (d) 1998-99.
- (5) What is the estimated sum that each centre will receive in 1999-2000.
- (6) On the most recent data, how many spot checks have been made at each of the nursing homes since 1998.
- (7) Have complaints been recorded with the Aged Care Accreditation Agency about any of those nursing homes since 1998; if so, (a) how many, (b) what has been the outcome and (c) how many have been resolved to the satisfaction of all parties.

\*1254 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 74 (*Hansard*, 9 February 1999, page 2266), to the date of answering this question, how many RAAF personnel in total have been (a) discharged or (b) advised that they will be discharged under the Chief of Air Staff Directive on RAAF Fitness Policy.
- (2) To the date of answering this question, how many Army personnel in total have been (a) discharged or (b) advised that they will be discharged under the Chief of the General Staff Directive on Army Individual Readiness.
- (3) How many of the discharged personnel referred to in parts (1) and (2) have received a (a) class A, (b) class B, or (c) class C invalidity benefit under the (i) Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme (DFRDB) and (ii) Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme (MSBS).
- (4) How many of the discharged personnel referred to in parts (1) and (2) are awaiting determination of their applications for invalidity benefits under either the DFRDB or MSBS schemes.

\*1255 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What are the addresses of each Medicare office operating on 1 March 2000 and in which electoral divisions are they located.
- (2) How many, and which, of the offices are open (a) for less than normal business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and (b) on Saturdays.
- (3) What are the current criteria for closure or relocation of Medicare offices used by the Health Insurance Commission.
- (4) How many Medicare offices have been closed since May 1997 and where were they located before they were closed.

\*1256 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2000, page 13731), what were the actual costs incurred by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) between 1 July 1996 and 13 March 2000 in respect to (a) compliance activity, (b) audit activity, (c) research into and implementation of the GST legislation and (d) research into and implementation of the Business Tax Reform Program.
- (2) Have ATO staff been taken off their usual duties to undertake work in respect to research into and implementation of the GST legislation and Business Tax Reform Program; if so, (a) how many staff, (b) have those positions been left unfilled and (c) who is doing the work of those who have

moved into work associated with research into and implementation of the GST and Business Tax Reform Program.

- (3) What is the actual expenditure on staff doing work in respect to research and implementation of the (a) GST and (b) Business Tax Reform Program.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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**SPEAKER'S PANEL**

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

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**COMMITTEES**

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

**Standing**

*Pursuant to standing orders*

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

**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 inquiries:*

Impact of the decision by ABC Radio to discontinue its radio racing service.

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 inquiries:*

ANAO audit report No. 37 1998-99 on the management of Tax File Numbers.

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority's supervision and prudential regulation of those areas of the financial services sector for which it is responsible.

International financial market effects on government policy.

Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia annual report 1998-99.

**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 inquiries:*

Catchment management.

Public good conservation - the impact of conservation measures imposed on landholders.

**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 Hatton, Mr Lawler, Mr Lloyd, Mr Morris, Mr Nairn, Ms Roxon, Mr C. P. Thompson, Dr Washer, Mr Zahra.

*Current inquiry:*

Adding value to Australian raw materials.

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

*Current inquiries:*

Enforcement of copyright.

Scientific, ethical and regulatory aspects of human cloning.

**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:** Fran Bailey (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Andren, Mr Horne, Mr Katter, Mr Lawler, Mr I. E. Macfarlane, Mr McLeay, Mr Nairn, Mr Secker, Mr Sidebottom, Mr C. P. Thompson. (Mr Griffin and Dr Washer to serve as supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into primary producer access to gene technology.)

*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 McClelland (nominee of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition), Mr McLeay, Mrs May, Mr Neville, Mr Sawford, Mr Sercombe, Dr Southcott (nominee of the Leader of the House).

*Current inquiry:*

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

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

*Current inquiry:*

Review of the Main Committee.

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

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

**Joint Statutory**

**AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION:** Mr Jull (*Presiding Member*), Mr Forrest, Mr McArthur, Mr McLeay, Senator Boswell, Senator Calvert, Senator Ray.

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

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

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

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

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

*Current inquiries:*

Community Education and Information Programme.

Contract management in the Australian Public Service.

Review of Auditor-General's audit reports—1998-99—Third and fourth quarters.

Review of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

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

*Current inquiries:*

Darwin—

Development of 90 apartments.

Housing development at Parap Grove.

Melbourne—Defence Science and Technology Organisation rationalisation project.

Nowra, NSW—HMAS *Albatross* Stage 2 redevelopment.

Twofold Bay, NSW—Navy ammunition facility.

Ultimo, NSW—ABC Sydney accommodation 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 Boswell, Senator Faulkner, Senator Mason, Senator Murray.

*Current inquiry:*

Conduct of the 1998 federal election.

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Senator Ferguson, (*Chair*), Fran Bailey, Mr Baird, Mr Brereton, Mrs Crosio, Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mr Hawker, Mr Hollis, Mr Jull, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Mr Lieberman, Mr Martin, Mrs Moylan, Mr Nugent, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Price, Mr Prosser, Mr Pyne, Mr Snowdon, Dr Southcott, Mr A. P. Thomson, Senator Bourne, Senator Brownhill, Senator Calvert, Senator Chapman, Senator Cook, Senator Gibbs, Senator Harradine, Senator O'Brien, Senator Payne, Senator Quirke, Senator Schacht.

*Current inquiries:*

- Australia's efforts to promote and protect freedom of religion and belief.
- Australia's relations with the United Nations.
- Australia's trade and investment relationship with South America.
- Suitability of the Australian Army for peacetime, peacekeeping and war.

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

*Current inquiry:*

- Review of State-specific migration mechanisms.

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

*Current inquiry:*

- Provision of health services on Norfolk Island.

**TREATIES** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Mr A. P. Thomson (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Baird, Mr Bartlett, Mr Byrne, Mrs Elson, Mr Hardgrave, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Mr Wilkie, Senator Bartlett, Senator Coonan, Senator Cooney, Senator Ludwig, Senator Mason, Senator Schacht, Senator Tchen.

*Current inquiries:*

Review of—

- Agreement between Australia and the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) on the continued operation of the Timor Gap Treaty .
- Agreement for the Establishment of the International Development Law Institute.
- Agreement with Republic of Korea on Scientific and Technological Cooperation.
- Amendments to Appendices I and II of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals.
- Convention on Damage Caused by Foreign Aircraft to Third Parties on the Surface - Denunciation.
- UN Convention to Combat Desertification.

**Joint Select**

**REPUBLIC REFERENDUM** (*Formed 31 May 1999*): Mr Adams, Mr Baird, Ms J. I. Bishop, Mr Charles, Mr Causley, Mr Danby, Ms Hall, Mr Hawker, Mr McClelland, Mr Price, Mr Pyne, Ms Roxon, Senator Abetz, Senator Bolkus, Senator Boswell, Senator Payne, Senator Schacht, Senator Stott Despoja. (*Report brought up 9 August 1999; Committee dissolved.*)

**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. (*Report brought up 30 August 1999; Committee dissolved.*)

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## **APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES**

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

**COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA:** Mr M. J. Ferguson (*elected 12 August 1999, for a period of 3 years*).

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