

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 134

MONDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2000

*The House meets this day at 12.30 p.m.***BUSINESS ACCORDED PRIORITY FOR THIS SITTING**

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Presentation and statements

- 1 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** From phantom to force: Towards a more efficient and effective army. (Statements to conclude by 12.50 p.m.)
- 2 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Building Australia's trade and investment relationship with South America. (*Statements to conclude by 1 p.m.*)
- 3 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION—JOINT COMMITTEE:** A watching brief: The nature, scope and appropriateness of ASIO's public reporting activities. (*Statements to conclude by 1.20 p.m.*)
- 4 **MIGRATION—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Not the Hilton: Immigration detention centres inspection report. (*Statements to conclude by 1.30 p.m.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices

- 1 **MR ALBANESE:** To present a Bill for an Act to establish an Aviation Noise Ombudsman, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 15 August 2000. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)
- †2 **MR LAWLER:** To move—That the House:
 - (1) notes the crucial importance of water to the ongoing growth of the Australian economy and to the environment of rivers and wetlands;
 - (2) acknowledges the many initiatives implemented over the past decade to achieve more efficient use of water;

* 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.

- (3) commends the Government for the directions created by the Natural Heritage Trust National Rivercare Program initiatives, particularly in regard to the Murray Darling Basin and the upper reaches of the Snowy River;
 - (4) calls for all future water allocations to be used for environmental purposes to be only taken from savings from the NSW and Victorian distribution system and only after satisfying a test of the national interest; and
 - (5) calls for proper financial compensation to be awarded to those who have their right to water taken away. (*Notice given 13 April 2000. Time allowed—30 minutes.*)
- †3 **MRS IRWIN:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the protection of children from abuse is fundamental in a civilised society;
 - (2) is alarmed by the apparent rise in child abuse and neglect despite the efforts of the National Child Protection Council; and
 - (3) calls on the Government to urgently focus more resources in implementing a national approach to the prevention, repair, intervention and research into child abuse. (*Notice given 1 June 2000. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time.*)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the day

- 1 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Question—That grievances be noted (*under standing order 106*).
- 2 **STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 June 2000—Mr Lee*).
- 3 **INDIGENOUS EDUCATION (TARGETED ASSISTANCE) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 June 2000—Mr Bevis*).
- 4 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (CONSUMER PROTECTION AND SERVICE STANDARDS) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 June 2000—Mr Swan*).
- 5 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (UNIVERSAL SERVICE LEVY) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 June 2000—Mr Swan*).
- 6 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (DEBT RECOVERY) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 June 2000—Mr Horne*).

- 7 **SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 August 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 8 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (THEFT, FRAUD, BRIBERY AND RELATED OFFENCES) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1999—Mr Horne*).
- *9 **HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT (RURAL AND REMOTE AREA MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 August 2000—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- 10 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 11 **PRIVACY AMENDMENT (PRIVATE SECTOR) BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 April 2000—Mr McClelland*).
- 12 **SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PRIVATE TRUSTS AND PRIVATE COMPANIES—INTEGRITY OF MEANS TESTING) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 August 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 13 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (UNITED NATIONS AND ASSOCIATED PERSONNEL) BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 June 2000—Mr Bevis*).
- 14 **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*).
- 15 **SYDNEY HARBOUR FEDERATION TRUST BILL 2000** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 26 June 2000*).
- 16 **AVIATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 April 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 17 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (AUSTRALIAN WORKPLACE AGREEMENTS PROCEDURES) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 June 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 18 **TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 June 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 19 **TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 June 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 20 **FAMILY LAW LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION) BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 April 2000—Mr Smith*).

- 21 **POSTAL SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 6 April 2000—Mr Smith).
- 22 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 2000** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 31 May 2000—Mr Horne).
- 23 **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TRIBUNAL BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 28 June 2000—Mr Bevis).
- 24 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TALLIES AND PICNIC DAYS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 29 June 2000—Mr Swan).
- 25 **COAL INDUSTRY REPEAL BILL 2000** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 28 June 2000—Mr Horne).
- 26 **EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 30 August 2000—Mr Lee).
- 27 **EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS (ASSURANCE FUND CONTRIBUTIONS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 30 August 2000—Mr Lee).
- 28 **EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS (REGISTRATION CHARGES) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 30 August 2000—Mr Lee).
- 29 **EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 30 August 2000—Mr Lee).
- 30 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (OVERSEAS STUDENTS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 30 August 2000—Mr Lee).
- 31 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 30 August 2000—Mr O'Connor).
- *32 **MARITIME LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 31 August 2000—Mr McClelland).
- 33 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (MORAL RIGHTS) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor).
- 34 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 14 March 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson).
- 35 **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).
- 36 **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).
- 37 **HUMAN RIGHTS (MANDATORY SENTENCING OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS) BILL 1999** (from Senate): Second reading (from 15 March 2000).
- 38 **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).
- 39 **PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE BILL 1999** (Attorney-General): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 10 June 1999).
- 40 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendment (from 7 March 2000).
- 41 **CUSTOMS AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (from 7 March 2000).
- 42 **NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) BILL 1998**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (from 8 March 2000).
- 43 **PETROL PRICING**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 443 (from 16 August 2000).
- 44 **INDIGENOUS CHILDREN**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 340 (from 4 April 2000).
- 45 **ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 309 (from 7 March 2000).
- 46 **CENSURE OF MINISTER FOR FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 183 (from 24 August 1999).
- 47 **GEELONG ROAD**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 171 (from 12 August 1999).
- 48 **CENTRELINK—LEVEL OF SERVICE**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 45 (from 10 March 1999).
- 49 **CENTRELINK**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (from 12 November 1998).
- 50 **PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION—REPORT—IMPACT OF COMPETITION POLICY REFORMS ON RURAL AND REGIONAL AUSTRALIA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (from 15 August 2000—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 51 **ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—REPORT FOR PERIOD 1 JULY TO 15 DECEMBER 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (from 15 August 2000—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 52 **JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL—REPORT FOR 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (from 15 August 2000—Mr McMullan) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 53 **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE—SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE FLIGHTS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 June 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 54 **RETAILING SECTOR—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE—REPORT—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 June 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 55 **MRI ISSUES—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 May 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the papers.
- 56 **GIPPSLAND REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 May 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 57 **WEST VICTORIA REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 May 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 58 **REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT FOR NORTH EAST NSW—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 May 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 59 **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BUDGET STATEMENT 2000-2001—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 May 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **FEDERAL OFFICE OF ROAD SAFETY—HEAVY TRUCK INVESTIGATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 May 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 61 **AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY AUTHORITY—QUARTERLY REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 May 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 62 **PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION—REPORT ON PROGRESS IN RAIL REFORM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 April 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 63 **INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON EFFECT OF CERTAIN PUBLIC POLICY CHANGES IN AUSTRALIA'S R&D—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 April 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 64 **TRADE OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2000—Mr Beazley*) on the motion of Mr Entsch—That the House take note of the paper.
- 65 **TRADE MISSION TO THE GULF—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2000—Dr Martin*) on the motion of Mr M. A. J. Vaile—That the House take note of the paper.
- 66 **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.
- 67 **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.
- 68 **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.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.
- 71 **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.
- 72 **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.
- 73 **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.
- 74 **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.

- 75 **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.
- 76 **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.
- 77 **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.
- 78 **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.
- 79 **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.
- 80 **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.
- 81 **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.
- 82 **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.
- 83 **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.
- 84 **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.
- 85 **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.
- 86 **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.

- 87 **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.
- 88 **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.
- 89 **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.
- 90 **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.
- 91 **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.
- 92 **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.
- 93 **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.
- 94 **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.
- 95 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Anthony*):
Customs Tariff Proposal No. 8 (1999)—*moved 24 November 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Horne*).
Excise Tariff Proposal No. 3 (1999)—*moved 24 November 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Horne*).
- 96 **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*).

97 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 Home*).

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

98 TARIFF PROPOSAL (*Mr Entsch*):

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

99 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 (*Dr Martin*).

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

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

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2000)—*moved 21 June 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr K. J. Thomson*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 3 (2000)—*moved 6 June 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr M. J. Ferguson*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 4 (2000)—*moved 29 June 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr M. J. Ferguson*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 5 (2000)—*moved 29 June 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr M. J. Ferguson*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 6 (2000)—*moved 30 August 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Smith*).

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

Excise Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2000)—*moved 6 June 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr M. J. Ferguson*).

Excise Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2000)—*moved 21 June 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr K. J. Thomson*).

Excise Tariff Proposal No. 3 (2000)—*moved 29 June 2000*—Resumption of debate (*Mr M. J. Ferguson*).

100 PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS BROADCASTING AMENDMENT BILL 1998: Second reading (*from 10 November 1998*).**Contingent notices of motion**

Contingent on any bill being brought in and read a first time: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the second reading being made an order of the day for a later hour.

Contingent on any report relating to a bill being received from the Main Committee: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Contingent on any bill being agreed to at the conclusion of the consideration in detail stage: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the motion for the third reading being moved without delay.

Contingent on any message being received from the Senate transmitting any bill for concurrence: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the bill being passed through all its stages without delay.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS—*continued*

Orders of the day

- 1 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S AUDIT REPORTS 1998-99, SECOND HALF—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 April 2000—Jackie Kelly*) 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 4 September 2000.*)
- 2 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REVIEW OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT 1997 AND COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITIES AND COMPANIES ACT 1997—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*6 April 2000—Mr McClelland*) 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 4 September 2000.*)
- 3 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON TREATIES TABLED ON 8 AND 9 DECEMBER 1999 AND 15 FEBRUARY 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 April 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-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 4 September 2000.*)
- 4 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THREE TREATIES TABLED ON 7 MARCH 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 April 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-accorded priority on the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 5 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS OF QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND RELATED MATTERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 12 April 2000—Mr Pyne, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—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 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 6 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SIX TREATIES TABLED ON 7 MARCH 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:**

Resumption of debate (*from 29 May 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-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

- 7 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH ITALY AND NEW ZEALAND COMMITTEE EXCHANGE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 June 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-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 8 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—FINANCIAL INFORMATION IN MANAGEMENT REPORTS AND CONTROL STRUCTURES OF MAJOR COMMONWEALTH AGENCIES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 June 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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 9 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PRIMARY PRODUCER ACCESS TO GENE TECHNOLOGY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2000—Fran Bailey, in continuation*) on the motion of Fran Bailey—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 4 September 2000.*)
- 10 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND SOLOMON ISLANDS—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2000—Mr Kerr, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Kerr—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 11 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM, CANBERRA—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2000—Mr Somlyay, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Somlyay—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 12 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REVIEW OF RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA'S ANNUAL REPORT 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2000—Mr Hawker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 13 **ELECTORAL MATTERS—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON CONDUCT OF 1998 FEDERAL ELECTION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2000—Mr Nairn, in continuation*)

on the motion of Mr Nairn—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

- 14 **COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND THE ARTS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON REGIONAL RADIO RACING SERVICES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2000—Mr Neville, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Neville—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 15 **LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—ADVISORY REPORT ON THE PRIVACY AMENDMENT (PRIVATE SECTOR) BILL 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2000—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 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 16 **LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—ADVISORY REPORT ON THE CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (THEFT, FRAUD, BRIBERY AND RELATED OFFENCES) BILL 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2000—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 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 17 **NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—CERD AND THE NATIVE TITLE AMENDMENT ACT 1998—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 June 2000—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 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 18 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SIX TREATIES TABLED ON 6 JUNE 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 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-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 19 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—NUMBERS ON THE RUN: REVIEW OF THE ANOA REPORT NO. 37 1998-99 ON THE MANAGEMENT OF TAX FILE NUMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2000—Mr Hawker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)



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

1 **MR BEAZLEY:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that the Howard Government's GST is a harsh and regressive tax, which imposes an unfair burden on low and middle income Australians and their families, and punitive compliance costs and competitive disadvantage on small business;
- (2) notes that the GST's pending introduction is already feeding through into higher prices and higher interest rates, eroding or eliminating the value of any associated income tax cuts before they even arrive;
- (3) recognises how few parliamentary opportunities remain before the GST's introduction; and
- (4) calls on the Howard Government to introduce a Bill to repeal the GST before it commences on 1 July 2000. (*Notice given 15 March 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 4 September 2000.*)

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

- (1) recognises that easing restrictions on parallel importing will result in cheaper prices for Australian consumers;
- (2) acknowledges that easing restrictions on parallel importing will allow Australian consumers to enjoy a greater range of products; and
- (3) confirms that easing restrictions on parallel importing improves product innovation and development. (*Notice given 10 April 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

3 **MR PYNE:** To move—That the House:

- (1) endorses the Government's progressive immigration policy and its emphasis on skilled immigrants which creates additional demand for goods and services and community infrastructure and the consequent employment opportunities that comes with it;
- (2) recognises that regional Australia and Australia's smaller States and Territories can enjoy economic, budgetary and employment benefits by skilled immigrants living and working in those regions;
- (3) supports the Government in building community confidence in an immigration program that reflects the needs of the Australian economy while also recognising a need for the family reunion stream of immigration; and
- (4) approves the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs' recent decision for a 5000 place increase in the Skill Stream of immigration. (*Notice given 10 April 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

4 DR THEOPHANOUS: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that the current Australian Government policy of mandatory detention of refugee claimants who arrive in Australia without visas is an unfair policy that applies to all person irrespective of their circumstances and their the genuineness of their claim for refugee status;
- (2) recognises that the policy has been condemned by Amnesty International, the Refugee Council of Australia, the International Commission of Jurists and other organisations for the suffering it creates; and furthermore recognises that Australia is the only developed country to have such a policy;
- (3) recognises that Amnesty International has described this policy as “not permitted under international human rights commitments” and that it “denies human rights to asylum seekers rights that are guaranteed for all Australians, even convicted criminals”; and
- (4) calls upon the Government to abolish this policy and replace it with an alternative which allows for the consideration of the individual circumstances of refugees before any decisions about detention is made and in seeking to establish such an alternative the Government should consider the submission of the Refugee Council of Australia entitled “an alternative detention model”. (*Notice given 11 April 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

5 DR THEOPHANOUS: To move—That this House:

- (1) expresses its concern at the hardship created by the implementation of the Government policy of granting three year temporary visas to refugees arriving without papers, even after they have been accepted as genuine under Australia’s refugee determination processes;
- (2) recognises that the provision in the three year visa which prevents the unification of those persons granted refugee status under the new policy with their spouse and dependent children, is inhumane and unacceptable under international human rights provisions, and is likely to prevent these refugees from seeing their spouses and children for more than the three year period; and
- (3) calls upon the Government to abolish this excessively punitive provision for those persons granted refugee status and to allow them to sponsor their spouses and dependent children to be with them for as long as they are given protection under Australia’s international obligations. (*Notice given 12 April 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

6 MR BEAZLEY: To move—That this House, noting the objects of the Charter of Budget Honesty and the requirement for fiscal transparency, calls upon the Government to ensure the integrity of the Budget by excluding from forward estimates any projected proceeds from the proposed further privatisation of Telstra. (*Notice given 12 April 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

7 MS GAMBARO: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that the restaurant and café industry makes a significant contribution to the Australian economy, having an estimated gross profit of \$3.3 billion and employing over 188 000 Australians;
- (2) acknowledges the contribution the restaurant and café industry makes to Australia's tourism income, with visitors spending an average \$328 on food during their stay in Australia; and
- (3) recognises the importance placed on the apprenticeship scheme by the Government, increasing the positions available in traineeships, and noting its beneficial impact for training in the restaurant industry. (*Notice given 11 May 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

8 MR BEAZLEY: To move—That this House:

- (1) congratulates the many thousands of Australians who walked in support of reconciliation on 28 May 2000 in Sydney and elsewhere;
- (2) acknowledges this clear and unequivocal public expression of support for the process of reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians; and
- (3) calls on the Government to respond positively to the clear and unequivocal public support demonstrated on the weekend of 27-28 May 2000 for a national apology for injustices suffered by indigenous Australians as a result of past practices, including the removal of children from their parents. (*Notice given 29 May 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

9 MR BEAZLEY: To move—That this House, on behalf of all Australians:

- (1) expresses its sorrow and apologises unreservedly for the hurt, grief and suffering experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples over many generations as a result of the policies of Australian governments over time that have caused or allowed the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their parents, families and communities;
- (2) acknowledges and apologises for the fact that the history of European settlement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands has been marked by many indefensible wrongs inflicted on the lives, cultures and heritage of indigenous peoples over time; and
- (3) reaffirms its commitment to the goals and processes of true reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians across Australia. (*Notice given 29 May 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

10 MR LATHAM: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the potential of Internet democracy as a way of fostering greater public participation in politics and rebuilding public trust in democratic processes;

- (2) notes the US experience in conducting elections through Internet voting, plus the development of mass participation in Internet polls;
- (3) notes the strong interest of the Australian Electoral Commission in the development of Internet voting; and
- (4) recognises the need to reform representative democracy and create a charter of issues and governmental responsibilities determined by direct democracy. *(Notice given 31 May 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)*

11 MS HALL: To move—That this House:

- (1) remembers the extraordinary deeds of John Simpson Kirkpatrick who, with his donkeys, rescued injured above and beyond the call of duty until he was himself killed; and
- (2) implores the Government to award a posthumous Victoria Cross of Australia to “Simpson” in accordance with the wishes of his WWI commanding officers and overwhelming public demand. *(Notice given 7 June 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)*

12 MR ALBANESE: To move—That this House:

- (1) declares that it is crucial for our democratic system of Government that measures be pursued and implemented to improve the standing and integrity of politicians with the community;
- (2) notes the comments of the Member for Cowper referring to the application of the GST to permanent residents of mobile and manufactured home parks who said “what affects me personally is that my integrity and honour is impugned, as is John Anderson and Larry’s and Mark Vaile and the rest of us. Everybody. Because we went to the people of Australia at the last election and we said there’d be no GST on rents. It has an impact on John Howard’s integrity and honour, and that of the Liberal Party as well”;
- (3) notes that permanent residents of caravan parks and boarding houses were identified as being at high risk of homelessness in the Government’s National Homelessness Strategy; and
- (4) calls upon the Government to remove the discriminatory application of the GST against these Australians. *(Notice given 19 June 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)*

13 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 19 June 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 14 **MR CHARLES:** To move—That this House encourages the Australian research and development community, both public and private, and the motor vehicle manufacturing industry to move as rapidly as possible to embrace the emerging hydrogen economy and to place Australia at the forefront of the development of hydrogen as an energy carrier to replace carbon and commends General Motors for its “HydroGen 1” hydrogen fuel electric car. (*Notice given 22 June 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 15 **MR PRICE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the Report by the Committee of Sydney Inc “Sydney's Gateways In The 21st Century - Part 1: The Airports”, prepared by Access Economics and Maunsell McIntyre Maunsell, dated June 2000 which states amongst other things:
 - (a) on a neutral set of assumptions, operations could commence at Badgerys Creek Airport (BCA) in 2020. To achieve this relies on a subsidy in the first two years and no interim measures to prolong Kingsford-Smith Airport (KSA) and, in the absence of other interim measures to prolong KSA (like Bankstown or speed rail), 2020 is the optimal start date for BCA;
 - (b) the earlier BCA commences the greater the economic negatives. If a private owner of Sydney airports is required to commence operations at BCA before it is economically viable, potential bidders will deduct an amount reflecting the cost of the subsidy from their bid price. For example, to commence BCA in 2015, the operational subsidy costs \$160m in the first year, gradually reducing to zero as BCA becomes viable in its own right. The total subsidy outlay from 2015 to 2019 is \$570m. To commence in 2010 the cost rapidly escalates to \$270m in the first year and \$1,700m in total from 2010 to 2019 (in 1997 dollars); and
 - (c) a \$1,700m subsidy to commence operations at BCA in 2010 will cause little reduction in KSA noise while accelerating the introduction of noise over Western Sydney. Reducing noise over inner Sydney would require an even larger subsidy; and
 - (2) urges the Minister for Transport and Regional Services to have an Independent Commission of Inquiry into Sydney’s Transport Needs and examine all options including Speed Rail, Interim measures to extend KSA,

BCA and other alternative sights for Sydney's Second Airport. (*Notice given 27 June 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

16 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 Badgerys 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 14 August 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

17 MR WILKIE: To move—That this House:

- (1) congratulates Iran regarding the completion of acknowledged democratic elections and the work of the new Majlis;
- (2) nevertheless regrets that Iran's reputation continues to be marred by questions of human rights and denial of religious freedom, most particularly the persecution of Baha'is and the renewal of the death sentences of Mr Hedayat Kashefi Najafabadi and Mr Sirius Zabihi-Moghaddam, and the inception of another against Mr Manuchehr Khulusi;
- (3) furthermore notes the persistent gaoling of numerous Baha'is for their religious beliefs and widespread discrimination in property, education, employment, civil and political rights;
- (4) acknowledges grave concern for the fate of 13 members of the Jewish community presently in custody in Iranian prisons and facing charges of espionage; and
- (5) urges Australia's continued vigilance and activity regarding human rights issues in Iran. (*Notice given 28 August 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

18 MS O'BYRNE: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the valuable role played by the Australian civilian ships in supporting the Interfet Force deployment in East Timor without which, as Commander Peter Cosgrove stated in his letter to the Maritime Union of Australia of 15 October 1999, the deployed Forces' logistics build up would have been severely hampered;
- (2) recognises that the role played by Australian civilian ships in East Timor continues the enormous role the Australian Merchant Navy has played historically in our ever expanding peacetime carriage of trade both domestically and internationally and through its service in two World Wars at cruel cost, with one seafarer in every eight dying and many more disappearing unrecorded in the ships of many nations;
- (3) supports the International Maritime Organisation's recognition of maritime workers and the importance of merchant shipping, including Australian coastal shipping through the celebrations of Maritime Day on September 24; and
- (4) believes that World Maritime Day should be regarded as a day of maritime pride and history and that the Australian Government should promote the flying of the Australian Flag rather than Flags of Convenience. (*Notice given 28 August 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

19 MRS CROSIO: To move—That this House:

- (1) Congratulates the countries of Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Namibia, The Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, The Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay and Venezuela for being signatories to the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW);
- (2) Recognises the CEDAW as the only woman specific human rights mechanism at the international level;
- (3) Recognises that the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW is a major step forward in realising Governments' commitments with regard to women's human rights;
- (4) Recognises that the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW creates procedures for the United Nations to promote the enjoyment of human rights to all women and the world-wide elimination of discrimination against women;
- (5) Recognises that signatories to the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW reject all forms of injustice and systemic discrimination suffered by women world-wide;
- (6) Recognises that the Optional Protocol provides a significant opportunity for women who have suffered from discrimination to seek justice through the United Nations;

- (7) Expresses concern at the significantly diminished role Australia is playing in the negotiations of the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW and the low priority given to the Optional Protocol by the Howard Government;
- (8) Calls on the Howard Government to take an active role in the negotiation process and to promote a speedy ratification of the Optional Protocol; and
- (9) Calls on the Howard Government to have Australia become a signatory to the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW. (*Notice given 30 August 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)

Orders of the day

- 1 **EMPLOYEE PROTECTION (EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS GUARANTEE) BILL 2000** (*Mrs Crosio*): Second reading (*from 13 March 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 4 September 2000.*)
- 2 **CRIMINAL ASSETS RECOVERY BILL 2000** (*Mr Kerr*): Second reading (*from 13 March 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 4 September 2000.*)
- 3 **NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2000** (*Mr Kerr*): Second reading (*from 13 March 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 4 September 2000.*)
- 4 **SEX DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PREGNANCY AND WORK) BILL 2000** (*Ms Macklin*): Second reading (*from 13 March 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 4 September 2000.*)
- 5 **CEMENT INDUSTRY**: Resumption of debate (*from 13 March 2000*) on the motion of Mr Adams—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 4 September 2000.*)

- 6 **PUBLIC EDUCATION:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 April 2000*) on the motion of Mr Sawford—That this House acknowledges the historic links between public education and the development of democracy in Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 4 September 2000.*)
- 7 **PARTHENON MARBLES:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 April 2000—Dr Nelson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Georgiou—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 4 September 2000.*)
- 8 **NALTREXONE:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 April 2000*) on the motion of Mrs Irwin—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 4 September 2000.*)
- 9 **MEDIA:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 April 2000*) on the motion of Mr Cameron—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 4 September 2000.*)
- 10 **AMENDMENT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY (SELF-GOVERNMENT) ACT 1978 BILL 2000** (*Mr Andren*): Second reading (*from 10 April 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 11 **HUMAN RIGHTS (MANDATORY SENTENCING OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS) BILL 2000** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 10 April 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 12 **EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BILL 2000** (*Mr Bevis*): Second reading (*from 10 April 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 13 **HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIETNAM**: Resumption of debate (*from 10 April 2000*) on the motion of Mr Sercombe—That the House:
- (1) expresses its concerns about the Vietnamese Government's continued detention, house arrest, and harassment of political dissidents and religious leaders;
 - (2) further expresses its concern in respect to the restriction of freedom of speech, the press, assembly and association in Vietnam;
 - (3) calls on the Australian Government to take concrete steps to monitor the human rights situation in Vietnam, including requesting the Vietnamese Government to allow Australian diplomats to visit those alleged to be prisoners of conscience and to do so on a regular basis;
 - (4) calls on the Australian Government to make regular representations to relevant Vietnamese Ministers and officials in Vietnam and the Vietnamese Embassy in Canberra for the immediate release of all prisoners of conscience, and for accelerated progress in moves to wind back restrictions on democratic freedoms; and
 - (5) calls on the Australian Government to provide the Parliament with regular reporting on its human rights representations to the Government of Vietnam, on the responses by Vietnam and the overall human rights situation in Vietnam. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 14 **HEALTH SERVICES IN RURAL, REGIONAL AND REMOTE AUSTRALIA**: Resumption of debate (*from 10 April 2000*) on the motion of Mrs Hull—That the 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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 15 **AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY AND THE GST:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 May 2000*) on the motion of Dr Southcott—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 16 **RECONCILIATION WEEK:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 May 2000*) on the motion of Ms Hoare—That the House:
- (1) supports Reconciliation Week and the reconciliation process;
 - (2) congratulates Evelyn Scott and the members of the Council for Reconciliation for their work and commitment to the reconciliation process; and
 - (3) further commits the House to continue to foster true reconciliation between Australians. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 17 **INTERNATIONAL TRADE:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 May 2000—Mr Wilkie, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr St Clair—That the House:
- (1) notes the crucial importance of international trade to the ongoing growth of the Australian economy, particularly in rural regions;
 - (2) commends the Government for the ongoing development of bilateral trade with more and more countries;
 - (3) urges the Government to continue its efforts to use sanitary and phyto-sanitary protocols to gain increased access of Australian agricultural and horticultural products to Korea, Taiwan and China; and
 - (4) commends Australian agricultural producers for their ongoing efforts to secure such market opportunities. (*Order of the day will be removed from*

the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)

- 18 **TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT (UNCONSCIONABLE CONDUCT—SAVING OF STATE AND TERRITORY LAWS) BILL 2000** (*Mr Fitzgibbon*): Second reading (*from 5 June 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 19 **MILITARY HISTORY AND HERITAGE:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 June 2000*) on the motion of Dr Lawrence—That this House:
- (1) recognises the importance of preserving our military history and heritage for future generations;
 - (2) applauds the work of the volunteers and returned service men and women in promoting and preserving our military heritage; and
 - (3) calls on the Government to retain in public ownership sites of significance for our military heritage and history, for example, the Fremantle Artillery Barracks and associated Army Museum. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 20 **ZIMBABWE:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 June 2000—Ms Roxon, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs Moylan—That this House:
- (1) condemns the Zimbabwe Government for allowing the current grave situation to continue in which:
 - (a) serious economic difficulties are leading to considerable unrest; and
 - (b) agricultural production has been jeopardised by the invasion of commercial farms by squatters and the squatters' actions have been ruled as illegal by the High Court of Zimbabwe;
 - (2) supports the Australian and British Governments' strongly expressed concerns about events in Zimbabwe; and
 - (3) calls on the Government of Zimbabwe to restore the rule of law and hold free and fair elections at the earliest possible date. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 21 **ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2000*) on the motion of Mr Hardgrave—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper*

unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)

- 22 **TELSTRA:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2000*) on the motion of Mr A. P. Thomson—That this 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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 23 **FIJI:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2000*) on the motion of Mr Price—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the fact that a legitimate government, democratically elected, has been detained at gun point and thereafter removed from office by illegal means, in Fiji by a small band of armed terrorists;
 - (2) notes that the ethnic Indian communities in Fiji are being deprived from exercising their fundamental political and human rights;
 - (3) calls on the Australian Government to:
 - (a) recall Australia's High Commissioner from Suva;
 - (b) suspend all Ministerial and high level official contacts;
 - (c) seek Fiji's immediate suspension from the Commonwealth;
 - (d) suspend all non-humanitarian elements of Australia's \$22.3 million aid program;
 - (e) cancel all defence cooperation with Fiji's armed forces;
 - (f) suspend the extension of the Import Credit Scheme in its application to Fiji;
 - (g) urge Australian tourists to favour other destinations instead of Fiji; and
 - (h) encourage other countries to adopt similar sanctions; and
 - (4) urges the Government to review the measures taken only upon full democratic rights being restored to each and every citizen of Fiji and a constitutional government being restored. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 24 **GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING (OBJECTIVITY, FAIRNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY) BILL 2000** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 26 June 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 25 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT BILL 2000 [NO. 2]** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 26 June 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the*

Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)

- 26 **MARKETISATION OF EDUCATION:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 August 2000*) on the motion of Mr Sawford—That this House acknowledges the dangers of the marketisation of education in Australia and its potential to normalise inequality for families in rural Australia, for families with disabled children, for families with children with behavioural difficulties and for families of children in depressed socio-economic areas. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 27 **TIBETAN PEOPLE'S HEALTH:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 August 2000—Mr Danby, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Nehl—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the great need to help the Tibetan people cope with the devastating impact of Iodine Deficiency Disorders; and
 - (2) applauds the AusAID program launched in Lhasa on 18 May 2000 which will transform the health profile of the Tibetan people. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 28 **PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS AND ETHICS:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 August 2000*) on the motion of Mr Horne—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 29 **PARALYMPIC GAMES:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 August 2000*) on the motion of Mr Cameron—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the significance of the Paralympic Games as the second largest sporting event in the world in 2000;
 - (2) applauds the example of our elite Paralympic athletes in keeping alive the best sporting traditions of honour, excellence and competition; and
 - (3) records its appreciation to the people of the ACT and NSW for their generous support of the Paralympics throughout the 2000 Pollie Pedal bike ride from Parliament House, Canberra, to the Sydney Town Hall. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)
- 30 **AUSTRALIAN TOURIST COMMISSION:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2000*) on the motion of Mr Baird—That this House:
- (1) commends the Australian Tourist Commission (ATC) in its recognition of the benefit of the Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games for Australian tourism and for the \$12 million four year program it has put in place to maximise the tourist potential of Australia; and

- (2) notes the ATC's plans to:
 - (a) generate additional publicity for Australia by hosting additional media;
 - (b) work with major Olympic sponsors on joint promotional programs;
 - (c) assist with National Olympic Committees' official tour operators; and
 - (d) work with international broadcasters who have rights to the Games.
(Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)
- 31 **POST POLIO SYNDROME:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2000*) on the motion of Mr Adams—That this House:
 - (1) recognises Post Polio Syndrome, as thousands of Australians are now experiencing the late effects of contracting polio some 30 to 40 years after the initial infection;
 - (2) notes that it is estimated that a minimum of 20 000 to 40 000 people had paralytic polio in Australia between the 1930's and the 1960's and it has only been recently that this syndrome has been diagnosed;
 - (3) gives support to the Post Polio Network set up around Australia;
 - (4) helps the establishment of assessment clinics for those that suffer from this disorder;
 - (5) helps educate medical professionals to recognise this syndrome and encourage further research; and
 - (6) legislates to recognise the need for post polio sufferers to retire early because of chronic ill health due to past polio infection. *(Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.)*
- 32 **NEEDLE SUPPLY AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2000—Mrs May, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Billson—That this House:
 - (1) recognises the:
 - (a) positive contribution needle supply and exchange programs have made to curbing the spread of infectious diseases through injecting drug use; and
 - (b) cost to the community of needle stick injury;
 - (2) encourages State and Territory Governments to:
 - (a) extend the principle of reducing harm by needle supply and exchange programs to include reducing the risk to the broader community of needle stick injury from syringes discarded improperly; and
 - (b) embrace retractable syringe technology across the health sector to reduce the risk and cost of needle stick injury to health professionals and health service consumers; and
 - (3) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (a) initiate trials of retractable syringes for Government-funded needle supply and exchange programs to determine the practicality, clinical

effectiveness and cost effectiveness of supplying retractable syringes; and

- (b) embrace the use of retractable syringes in the Commonwealth's own medical and allied health activities, for example Defence. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 September 2000.*)



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 today 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).



BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders 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*).
- 2 **ROAD AND RAIL—GOVERNMENT RESPONSES TO REPORTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 28 June 2000—Mr Sercombe*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Orders of the day

- 1 **EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—AGE COUNTS: ISSUES SPECIFIC TO MATURE-AGE WORKERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 31 August 2000—Mr K. J. Thomson, in continuation*) on the motion of Dr Nelson—That the House take note of the report.
- 2 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—SECOND CHAMBER: ENHANCING THE MAIN COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 16 August 2000—Mr Sercombe*) on the motion of Mr Price—That the House take note of the report.
- 3 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON INDIGENOUS HEALTH—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 29 June 2000—Mr Neville*) on the motion of Mr Wakelin—That the House take note of the report.
- 4 **INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ADDING VALUE TO AUSTRALIAN RAW MATERIALS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 11 May 2000—Mr Wakelin*) on the motion of Mr Prosser—That the House take note of the report.
- 5 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SHAPING REGIONAL AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 6 April 2000—Mr Pyne*) on the motion of Fran Bailey—That the House take note of the report.
- 6 **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 5 April 2000—Mr Neville*) on the motion of Mr Hollis—That the House take note of the report.
- 7 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—INTERIM REPORT ON REVIEW OF THE RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 1998-99—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF**

PAPER: Resumption of debate (*from 16 March 2000—Ms Worth*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report.

8 **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*) 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 in the Notice Paper.

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.

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.

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.

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.

22 November 1999

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.

6 December 1999

1064 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many reservists from (a) Victoria, (b) NSW, (c) Western Australia and (d) other States are now serving on a temporary full-time basis with the component units of the 7th Brigade in Brisbane.
- (2) For what period have these reservists been asked to serve on a full-time basis.
- (3) What proportion of these reservists were previously (a) full time students, (b) unemployed, (c) employed in the public sector and (d) employed in the private sector.
- (4) In respect of those reservists who were (a) previously employed in the private sector and (b) previously employed in the public sector, what measures, if any, has the Government instituted to protect their civilian employment.
- (5) In regard to University and TAFE students what measures, if any, has the Government put in place to enable them to temporarily defer their studies without penalty.

9 December 1999

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

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.

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.

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.

6 March 2000

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.

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

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.

13 March 2000

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.

16 March 2000

1276 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did he state in his media release of 7 March 2000 that the service by Australian troops in East Timor represented Australia's most significant commitment of troops since World War II.
- (2) Is he able to say, according to official records, how many Australian military personnel were deployed during the (a) Korean War, (b) Vietnam War, (c) Malayan Emergency and (d) Indonesian Confrontation.

1280 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) In 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000, what sum was allocated from the Federal budget specifically to assist children with a mentally ill parent.
- (2) What programs does his Department administer specifically to assist children with a mentally ill parent.
- (3) Are programs planned by his Department specifically to assist children with a mentally ill parent; if so, (a) what programs are planned, (b) what was the consultation process used to develop the policy to guide the programs, (c) which groups and individuals were consulted while developing the policy to guide the program and (d) was the National Network of Adult and Adolescent Children who have a Mentally Ill Parent/s (Inc.) consulted; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the Government provide funding to any individual or group in 2000-01 to specifically meet the needs of children with a mentally ill parent, if so, will the Government provide funding to National Network of Adult and Adolescent Children who have a Mentally Ill Parent/s (Inc.).

- (5) Are federally funded respite care programs available specifically to meet the needs of children with a mentally ill parent; if so, what; if not, when will they be made available.
 - (6) Has his Department conducted a survey on the specific needs of children with a mentally ill parent; if so, (a) which individuals and groups were surveyed, (b) when was the survey concluded and (c) when will the survey results be publicly released.
- 1283 **MR KERR:** To ask the Prime Minister—How many (a) full time, (b) part time and (c) casual staff were employed by the Commonwealth in (i) Tasmania and (ii) the electoral division of Denison on (A) 2 March 1996 and (B) March 2000.

3 April 2000

- 1284 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—Does the Government currently differentiate between geographic areas in the application of (a) tax rebates and (b) grants schemes relating to tax compensation; if so, what are the details.
- 1285 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the progress being made with the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis by the new pharmaceutical product, Celebrex/Celecoxib.
 - (2) When will this product be included on the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme.
- 1290 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Was the document posted on the ATO website at taxreform.ato.gov.au/publications/1999 titled *The new tax system: here's what you need to know* written entirely within the ATO and Treasury, or was part of the drafting provided by his office.
 - (2) Does the ATO stand by its assurances at page 7 that prices will not go up by the full 10 per cent because old, unfair taxes such as the wholesale sales tax will be removed and many things will be GST-free.
 - (3) What is the basis of the ATO's claim at page 3 that all families, not categories of families, will be better off under the GST
 - (4) Will non-prescription skin creams, tampons and sanitary pads, feeding pads and breast pumps, vitamins and minerals, pregnancy kits, spectacle frames, contact lens solutions, first aid kits and band-aids, antiseptics and lozenges, school uniforms, school shoes, stockings and socks, stationery, pens, pencils and paintbrushes and school bags and cases be subject to the GST; if so, how can the ATO claim at page 1 that there will be no GST on health and education.
 - (5) Does the ATO stand by its assurance at page 13 that the price of a new \$30 000 family car will fall by around \$2400.

6 April 2000

- 1366 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Further to the answer to question No. 1054 (*Hansard*, 4 April 2000, page 14689) concerning doctors working in regional Australia, what action is the Government taking to implement increases in training numbers in the disciplines of radiology, oncology, orthopaedic surgery, and ear, nose and throat surgery.

1388 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Does the Government remain committed to a target strength of 26 850 for the Army Reserve in 1999-2000.
- (2) How many reservists with training obligations are there in the Army Reserve at present.
- (3) How many Army reservists are currently designated as being effective because they are totally fulfilling their training obligations.
- (4) How many Army reservists are currently designated as being ineffective because they are not fulfilling their training obligations.
- (5) What guidance, if any, has been given to unit commanders to encourage reservists who are not meeting their training obligations to resume doing so.
- (6) What guidance, if any, has been given to unit commanders to take action to remove from the books of the Army Reserve those reservists who consistently over an extended period of time fail to attend required parades and training exercises.
- (7) What is the methodology that is used at present to allocate to annual quotas of training days to individual Army Reserve units and does this methodology specifically take account of the number of personnel who are, and who are not, meeting their training obligations.

10 April 2000

1414 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is he considering a submission from the Australian Defence Force (ADF) for more extensive assistance for ADF spouse employment; if so, (a) when was work on the proposal commenced, (b) when did it reach his office and (c) when will he complete his consideration.
- (2) What sum has been allocated by the Defence Community Organisation for this purpose and what sum has been spent.
- (3) Has this function recently been reviewed by his Department; if so, will he publicly release the review; if not, why not.

1415 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Are there wine cellars at Kirribilli House and The Lodge.
- (2) If so, how many wines are stored in each cellar, and for each wine (a) what is the name of the wine, (b) what is the name of the vineyard, (c) what is the wine maker's name, (d) what is the vintage, (e) in what year was it purchased and (f) what was the cost of the wine at the time of purchase.
- (3) How many bottles of wine were purchased in 1999, and for each wine purchased (a) what is the name of the wine, (b) what is the name of the vineyard, (c) what is the wine maker's name, (d) what is the vintage of each new purchase and (f) what was the cost of the wine at the time of purchase.
- (4) Of the wines cellared at Kirribilli House and The Lodge, how many are local produce.
- (5) Was a wine consultant appointed to implement a wine cellaring strategy for Kirribilli House and The Lodge; if so, (a) what sum, if any, of

Commonwealth money was used to pay for the wine consultant's services and (b) what were the terms of the consultant's appointment.

12 April 2000

1431 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Under the package agreed to with the NT Government to address concerns about the Territory's mandatory sentencing laws (a) what will constitute a minor offence and (b) will the stealing of pens, textas and liquid paper from a school after hours be a minor offence.
- (2) Did the 10 April 2000 Joint Communique issued with the NT's Chief Minister state among other things that the General Orders of the NT police will be changed to require police to divert at the pre-charge stage in the case of minor offences and, in more serious cases, to provide discretion for police to divert offenders and on successful completion of a program not to pursue charges; if so, (a) why will the General Orders of the NT police be used as the means to make these changes rather than legislation passed after proper parliamentary scrutiny and (b) on what grounds is the Federal Government satisfied that internal police orders are a sufficiently open mechanism by which to make the proposed changes.
- (3) With regard to the agreement to require police to divert at the pre-charge stage in the case of minor offences, but at the same time to maintain the mandatory sentencing provisions, is there a risk that people accused of an offence will be forced to admit guilt to avoid going to court and being sentenced mandatorily; if not, why not; if so, why has the Government agreed to a proposal that prima facie threatens the presumption of innocence fundamental to any fair criminal justice system.
- (4) What does "divert for minor offences mean" and does it include police cautions.
- (5) How many times will an accused who admits guilt be able to be mandatorily referred to diversionary programs before being mandatorily sentenced to detention.
- (6) If "divert" does include police cautions, (a) to what offences will such cautions apply and (b) will the Northern Territory legislate to specify where cautions will be permitted or will this also be covered by the General Orders of the NT police.
- (7) Is the Government aware of allegations that the NT police force has a poor record in complying with several aspects of the current General Orders, in particular, the requirement to notify the Aboriginal Legal Service when a young Aboriginal person is taken into custody; if so, what guarantees has the Federal Government been given that police will comply with the proposed changes to the General Orders.
- (8) With regard to the proposal to closely monitor the agreed initiatives and review them after 12 months, (a) what will this monitoring and review involve, (b) what body or bodies will conduct it, (c) why has no monitoring or review of the Territory's mandatory sentencing laws also been proposed and (d) if the monitoring or review will be conducted by a departmental agency or agencies, in the interest of openness and accountability, will the

Government support review of the initiatives by the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee; if not, why not.

- (9) When will full details of the proposed juvenile justice package be made publicly available.

13 April 2000

1441 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the reply given to Senator Harradine on 10 February 1999 regarding ‘the supply of Medicare statistics on pregnancy terminations for 1997 from May 5 and for the entire year 1998’, published in Australian Senate, Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Examination of Budget Estimates 1998-99, Additional Information Received, Volume 3 (Programs 2 & 3) Health and Aged Care Portfolio, April 1999.
- (2) Is the prescribed definition of item 34643 given in his Department’s answer entirely due to pregnancy terminations or a percentage of them.
- (3) Are the claims under item 35643 a percentage; if so, what is that percentage.
- (4) Is the prescribed definition of item 16525 given in his Department’s answer entirely due to pregnancy terminations or a percentage of them.
- (5) Are the claims under item 16525 a percentage of all claims; if so, what is that percentage.
- (6) Is there data for terminations of pregnancies which are not represented in the Department’s supplied data; if so, (a) what is the source of the additional data and (b) how many additional abortions were performed in Australia (i) over that same period and (ii) to date.
- (7) How many abortions are carried out in public hospitals and what is the cost of those abortions.
- (8) What are items (a) 35626, (b) 35630, (c) 35639 and (d) 35640 for medical services, as prescribed in the relevant legislation and by-laws.

1445 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Did she write to a number of residential aged care providers in October and November 1999, including Robert and Dorothy Stone of Jowett Holdings in the electoral division of Calwell, informing them that she will be making decisions on the GST free status of aged care services shortly, and that she will be informing them accordingly.
- (2) Is she aware of anxieties on the part of aged care providers as to the impact of the GST on their services and their desire to receive her explanation in these matters.
- (3) When will she be making determinations about the GST free services and when will she inform the Parliament and the providers of her decisions.

1449 **MS O’BYRNE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Does the Minister administer legislation which relates to domestic violence.
- (2) If so, what is the definition applied by the Minister’s Department to the term “domestic violence”.

- (3) Is the definition sourced from a policy document or statute.
- (4) Is there discretionary flexibility available to be exercised by the Department when applying the definition to individual circumstances; if so, are there internal departmental manuals outlining discretionary options.

9 May 2000

1473 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Is the Minister able to say what services operate in the Northern Territory to provide assistance or counselling in relation to the use of alcohol or drugs.
- (2) Where does each service operate.
- (3) What are the particular services provided by each of the services.
- (4) Who operates the services.
- (5) What proportion of clients of each of the services identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (6) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in each of the services, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (7) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (8) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.
- (9) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.
- (10) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the services by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.
- (11) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.
- (12) What proportion of total expenditure by the Commonwealth is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Commonwealth.
- (13) What proportion of total expenditure by the Northern Territory is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Northern Territory.

1476 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Is the he able to say what services operate in Western Australia to provide assistance or counselling in relation to the use of alcohol or drugs.
- (2) Where does each service operate.
- (3) What are the particular services provided by each of the services.
- (4) Who operates the services.
- (5) What proportion of clients of each of the services identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

- (6) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in each of the services, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
 - (7) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
 - (8) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
 - (9) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
 - (10) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the services by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
 - (11) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
 - (12) What proportion of total expenditure by the Commonwealth is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Commonwealth.
 - (13) What proportion of total expenditure by Western Australia is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Western Australia.
- 1477 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) Is the Minister able to say what literacy and remedial education programs operate in the Northern Territory, including those offering assistance to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.
 - (2) Where does each program operate.
 - (3) What are the particular services provided by each of the programs.
 - (4) Who operates the programs.
 - (5) What proportion of clients of each of the programs identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
 - (6) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in each of the programs, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
 - (7) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
 - (8) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.
 - (9) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.
 - (10) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the programs by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.

- (11) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Northern Territory.
- (12) What proportion of total expenditure by the Commonwealth is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Commonwealth.
- (13) What proportion of total expenditure by the Northern Territory is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Northern Territory.

1481 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) Is he able to say what literacy and remedial education programs operate in Western Australia, including those offering assistance to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.
- (2) Where does each program operate.
- (3) What are the particular services provided by each of the programs.
- (4) Who operates the programs.
- (5) What proportion of clients of each of the programs identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (6) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in each of the programs, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (7) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (8) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (9) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (10) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the programs by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (11) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (12) What proportion of total expenditure by the Commonwealth is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Commonwealth.
- (13) What proportion of total expenditure by Western Australia is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the programs in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Western Australia.

1494 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report in the *Business Review Weekly* of 14 April 2000 entitled “Petroulias v Carmody and the \$300 cigars”.

- (2) Did Mr Nick Petroulias propose in writing to Tax Commissioner Michael Carmody that he be appointed First Assistant Commissioner in charge of a planned National Strategic Intelligence Unit.
 - (3) Did Mr Carmody and Mr Petroulias then have negotiations regarding Mr Petroulias' possible appointment as Chief of the Strategic Intelligence Unit, involving an exchange of e-mails concerning the possible function of the Strategic Intelligence Unit and a face to face meeting concerning the position in Canberra.
 - (1) Did Mr Carmody subsequently offer Mr Petroulias the position at Assistant Commissioner level.
 - (2) Did Mr Petroulias reject that offer, but subsequently accept the position when the offer was increased to promotion to First Assistant Commissioner.
- 1499 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Are Health Insurance Funds required to keep reserves; if so, (a) what is the quantum of the reserves required to be held and (b) are they determined by statutory or prudential means.
 - (2) What sums were held by each fund in 1998-99.
- 1501 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the estimated incidence of emphysema in the Australian community and how many deaths each year are attributable to the condition.
 - (2) Is the incidence of emphysema linked to particular demographic characteristics; if so, what groups are at increased risk of contracting the disease.
 - (3) For the latest year for which data is available, what level of Commonwealth funding is provided for research relating to emphysema.
 - (4) Which institutions received funding for emphysema-related research in the period 1998-2000 and how many grants were obtained by each institution.
 - (5) Is emphysema designated as a priority under the Government's National Health Priority Areas; if not, why not.

10 May 2000

- 1510 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is it the case that approximately three years ago the Commonwealth prohibited Legal Aid Commissions from providing initial assistance to persons making refugee applications on the basis that the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs was providing free legal assistance to such person in all States and Territories.
 - (2) Does a scheme operate in the Northern Territory to provide that assistance.
 - (3) Is it further the case that the need for such assistance has been contained in requests from the Legal Aid Commissions in representations to both his Department and the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.
 - (4) Is the Northern Territory one of the most affected areas of Australia involving refugees and other migration problems.

- (5) Why has such assistance not been provided and when will the commitment to provide such assistance be honoured.

1513 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report in the *Australian Financial Review* on 26 April 2000 headed “Late GST decision software problem”.
- (2) When will the Australian Taxation Office rule on how to convert foreign currency to Australian dollars under a GST.
- (3) When will the format of the Business Activity Statement be finalised.

1514 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report in the *Australian Financial Review* of 20 to 25 April 2000 entitled “Mystery of Petroulias appointment”.
- (2) When was Mr Nick Petroulias appointed to the position of First Assistant Commissioner within the Australian Taxation Office.
- (3) Was the position gazetted; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (4) Who comprised the Selection Committee for this appointment.
- (5) Who approved the appointment.

1517 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Minister’s attention been drawn to a recent conviction of a Queensland truck driver on three counts of defrauding the Commonwealth, relating to excise evasion through purchasing marked solvent and selling the product to service stations as transport fuel.
- (2) What other prosecutions were undertaken for fuel excise evasion in 1997, 1998 and 1999, and what were the outcomes of those prosecutions.

1518 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many claims for compensation for defective administration were made to the Australian Tax Office (ATO) in each year since 1996-97.
- (2) How many claims for compensation were successful in each year.
- (3) What was the total compensation bill in each year.
- (4) How many claims were made by tax agents on behalf of clients in each year.
- (5) How many (a) successful and (b) unsuccessful applicants for compensation were subsequently audited by the ATO.

1519 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Have any claims for compensation for defective administration made to the Australian Tax Office over the period of 1996 to 2000 been paid out either improperly or incorrectly to the wrong person; if so, (a) how many were paid and (b) what sum was paid.
- (2) Is compensation still owed to another party with respect to these claims.

1520 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—In cases where a tax agent corrects an item of defective administration of the Australian Tax Office (ATO) on behalf of a client, can the tax agent directly claim compensation from the ATO for that professional time used to deal with an item of defective administration; if not, why not.

- 1521 **MS J. S. MCFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What were the administrative costs to process claims for compensation for defective administration made to the Australian Tax Office (ATO) in each year since 1996-97.
 - (2) How many claims ended being heard in court in year.
 - (3) What were the legal costs for defending any court action in each year.
 - (4) How many hours were spent by the ATO's legal section working on these claims in each year.
- 1524 **MR FISCHER:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In each year since 1997, has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) carried out surveillance in-flight inspections where an officer of CASA travelled in the cockpit to survey operational procedures and inspect airline internal surveillance practices.
 - (2) How many in-flight sectors have been completed by CASA officers carrying out survey and inspection annually in relation to (a) Qantas, (b) Eastern, (c) Ansett, (d) Kendall, (e) Impulse, (f) Southern, (g) Air Facilities, (h) Flight West, (i) Hazelton and (j) Yanda Airlines.

11 May 2000

- 1532 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Does the Minister's Department administer any Commonwealth funded programs for which community organisations, businesses or individuals can apply for funding in Tasmania; if so, what are the programs.
 - (2) Does the Minister's Department advertise these funding opportunities; if so, (a) what print media outlets have been used for the advertising of each of these programs and (b) were these paid advertisements.
- 1546 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to representations by my constituent, Mr Mike Gunton of Lorikeet Avenue, Ingleburn, NSW, to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) seeking an answer to a question Mr Gunton has been asking for approximately 16 years.
 - (2) Has the ATO provided an answer to Mr Gunton's question; if not, why not.
 - (3) Did the ATO derive a tax bill of \$99 000 for this moderately paid PAYE worker; if so, how.
 - (4) Has the ATO initiated bankruptcy action without providing information or evidence of why Mr Gunton allegedly owed this money; if so, how.

29 May 2000

- 1558 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What has been the total outlay by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) on the EDS contract in each financial year since EDS won the information technology delivery contract for the ATO.

- (2) What sum has been spent by the ATO for non-EDS delivered IT functions in each financial year since the commencement of the contract.
- (3) What is the price charged by EDS to the ATO for a basic call out.
- (4) What was the total cost of the ATO's IT functions prior to the contract being outsourced to EDS and did that cost include the cost of call outs.
- (5) What was the total cost of the ATO's IT functions after the contract was outsourced to EDS, including the internal support and does that cost include the cost of call outs.
- (6) Further to the answer to question No. 799 (*Hansard*, 19 October 1999, page 11914), will he provide copies of the reports EDS is required to prepare each month on service levels, since the commencement of the contract until 1 May 2000.

1559 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) For how many of its staff has the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) provided GST training.
- (2) How many of those staff have subsequently left the ATO, and how many of them left within six weeks of completing the training course.
- (3) How many staff left the ATO in 1998-99.
- (4) How many staff have left the ATO in 1999-2000 to date.
- (5) What will be the impact of these departures on the time taken to process taxation returns.
- (6) Have staff been transferred out of the Large Business and International business line; if so, how many.
- (7) What has been the cost of outsourcing the information technology function to EDS in each financial year since this first occurred.
- (8) What percentage of the ATO budget is being allocated to information technology in financial year 1999-2000.
- (9) What percentage of the ATO budget was allocated to information technology in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1997-98 and (c) 1996-97.
- (10) Has the ATO given incorrect GST registration numbers to businesses registering for the GST; if so, (a) on how many occasions, (b) what was the reason for incorrect registration numbers being issued and (c) will businesses in this situation who have printed letterheads, replied to questionnaires and who will incur significant expense in rectifying these errors be offered compensation by the ATO or the Government for expenses incurred as a result.

1563 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) How many complaints does the Australian Taxation Office have on its books concerning Superannuation Guarantee non compliance.
- (2) During (a) 1998-99 and (b) 1999-2000 to date, how many Australian workers did not receive their full Superannuation Guarantee entitlements.

1569 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many litigants in person were there in Family Court matters in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98 and (d) 1998-99.

- (2) How many (a) litigants in person and (b) applicants in the Family Court were refused Legal Aid in (i) 1997-98 and (ii) 1998-99.
- (3) How many matters in the Family Court in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98 and (c) 1998-99 had both applicant and respondent as litigants in person.
- (4) Is data available about disposition times of Family Court matters where one or more of the parties is a litigant in person; if so, what is that data.
- (5) Are policies or guidelines in place to assist judicial officers and registry staff of the Family Court in dealing with litigants in person; if so, what are they; if not, are there plans to develop them.
- (6) How many cases have been dismissed by the Family Court for non-compliance with a technicality where one or more of the parties was a litigant in person and the non-compliance was of that litigant in person.
- (7) What are the aims of the Family Court Support Program at the Dandenong Registry of the Family Court.
- (8) What are the aims of the Integrated Client Services Scheme at the Parramatta Registry of the Family Court.
- (9) When, why and by whom were the programs or schemes referred to in parts (8) and (9) introduced.
- (10) Are there plans to implement these programs or schemes at other Family Court registries.

30 May 2000

1577 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Comparing the annual death rates attributable to high-risk industries in Australia, what have been the fatality rates since 1997 in (a) the airline industry, (b) industries using high levels of radioactive substances and (c) health care services, including hospitals.
- (2) Are adverse medical events (iatrogenesis) among the top ten leading causes of death in Australia; if so, where does iatrogenesis list among the top ten; if not, what does the Government estimate to be the total number of deaths due to iatrogenesis.
- (3) Can he advise how many citizens die per year or require further medical treatment, due to (a) adverse reactions to correctly prescribed medication, (b) adverse reactions to incorrectly prescribed medication, (c) medical errors during surgery, (d) incorrect medical diagnoses and (e) hospital infections.
- (4) How does the Government keep account of the fatalities arising from the medical treatment it funds.
- (5) Is there a national inventory of fatalities arising from iatrogenesis.
- (6) Do the States and Territories maintain inventories of fatalities arising from adverse iatrogenesis.
- (7) When a patient dies because of medical error, does the (a) Federal Government or (b) State or Territory Government legally require the medical practitioner or hospital concerned to report the death; if not, why not.

1585 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article in the *Australian Financial Review* on 15 May 2000 entitled “ATO ignored advice: Petroulias”.
- (2) Did Mr Nick Petroulias meet with other ATO officials in April 1999 and seek a Government announcement in the May Budget to close off employee benefit schemes designed to avoid tax; if so, what action did the ATO take in response to Mr Petroulias’ request.
- (3) In September 1998 did the ATO have advice that a legislative response was necessary to close off employee benefits schemes designed to avoid tax; if so, what advice did the ATO provide him or the Assistant Treasurer concerning this matter.

1 June 2000

1598 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the recent death of an SAS Vietnam veteran two days after being admitted to the Hollywood Clinic in Western Australia, and the difficult circumstances confronted by the veteran when being admitted to the Clinic.
- (2) Was the veteran initially refused admittance to the clinic pending proof that he was a veteran.
- (3) Was access to the clinic only achieved after intervention by the veteran’s voluntary advocate.
- (4) Will he initiate an immediate inquiry into admittance procedures for veterans at this and similar clinics; if not, why not

1599 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—Did his Department send my electorate office 20 to 25 copies of an A3 size colour poster of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, with a ‘with compliments’ slip from his Department, in the weeks immediately after the Republic Referendum in November 1999; if so, (a) why were the posters sent to my office without a request, (b) how many colour posters have been distributed to each Member of Parliament, (c) how many copies have been produced in total, (d) what was the cost to produce and distribute the posters, (e) from which budget was funding been sourced and (f) why was the poster produced and distributed.

5 June 2000

1600 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) How many (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons’ hostels are there in each State and Territory.
- (2) How many clients are there in (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons’ hostels in each State and Territory.
- (3) How many (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons’ hostels were listed as (i) urgent action required and (ii) action required at the commencement of the *Aged Care Act 1997*.

- (4) How many (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons' hostels listed as (i) urgent action required and (ii) action required have been removed from those lists since 1997.
- (5) How many (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons' hostels are listed as (i) urgent action required and (ii) action required as at 5 June 2000.
- (6) What qualifications does the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency set for quality assessors or inspectors.
- (7) Are quality assessors or inspectors of the Agency categorised by professions such as nursing care, hygiene, fire, building safety, staff training.
- (8) How many quality assessors or inspectors of the Agency are employed in each State and Territory.
- (9) Do approved providers have any input into the selection of quality assessors or inspectors employed by the Agency; if not, why.
- (10) How many inspections of (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons hostels have taken place since the commencement of the Aged Care Act in each State and Territory.
- (11) How many (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons hostels (i) failed an inspection and (ii) have been placed under the control of an administrator.
- (12) How many licences have been revoked since the commencement of the Aged Care Act in each State and Territory.
- (13) Since the commencement of the Aged Care Act, how many (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons hostels have been closed and how many clients were affected in each State and Territory.
- (14) What were the main reasons for the closure of (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons hostels in each State and Territory.
- (15) How many (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons hostels have resident committees with consumer representatives.
- (16) Does the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency have the power to check nursing homes and aged persons hostels at any time.
- (17) What is the ratio of required bathrooms and toilets per client in (a) church managed and (b) privately owned nursing homes and aged persons hostels in each State and Territory.
- (18) Does this ratio vary for different levels of facilities.
- (19) What is the required ratio of registered nursing staff to clients in each care plan in each State and Territory.
- (20) What is the required ratio of trained nursing aid to clients in each care plan in each State and Territory.
- (21) What is the required ratio of Level 1, 2, 3 and 4 carers to clients in each care plan.

- (22) Are carers required to take a literacy or language test prior to employment in a nursing homes and aged persons hostels; if not, why.
- (23) What is the minimum number of (a) registered nurses, (b) trained carers and (c) untrained carers required in nursing homes and aged persons hostels at any time.
- (24) What are the award wage and salary levels for all staff employed in nursing homes and aged persons hostels for each State and Territory.

1603 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many farming interests will be lost as a direct result of dairy farming deregulation.
- (2) What will be the estimated impact in dollars and percentiles of dairy farming deregulation on farm property values.
- (3) Will he implement controls and restrictions on processors and supermarkets so that farmers can continue to receive a fair and reasonable price for their produce.
- (4) Do Australian consumers enjoy the lowest cost and highest quality dairy products in the world; if so, what will be the benefit to the consumer of these deregulatory reforms.
- (5) How will the \$1.7 billion dollar package assist farmers in a price drop.
- (6) What sum will consumers provide to benefit prices through the 11 cents per litre levy.
- (7) What sum will the State and Territory Governments be paid by the Federal Government when the industry deregulates.
- (8) How many NSW farmers will be forced out of the dairy industry should the milk price fall below 25 cents per litre.
- (9) Is it a fact that, according to the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics figures, the adjustment package would need to double to \$3.6 billion to afford realistic compensation to dairy farmers for loss of income and quota values.
- (10) What sum will the Federal Government provide for the compensation package over the next eight years.
- (11) Will added pressures be put on the environment due to deregulation; if so, what are those additional pressures especially in respect to milk production.

6 June 2000

1608 **MR M. J. EVANS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to concern by members of the medical research community that grants from overseas based funding bodies such as the National Institutes of Health in the US and The Wellcome Trust in the UK will be subject to the GST and that no comparable refund will be available, effectively reducing the grant by 10%.
- (2) Is this concern justified; if so, will he act to ensure that Australian researchers in receipt of overseas sourced grants are not disadvantaged by the GST.

1611 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1234 (*Hansard*, 1 June 2000, page 15919) concerning the 1999 Regional Australia Summit, who were the members of the Regional Australia Summit Reference Group and who selected them.
- (2) Did the Reference Group receive advice from, or consult with, him, his staff or his Department about its decision to invite only Coalition Members and Senators (apart from myself and Senator Mackay) to the Summit dinner.
- (3) Was the aim of the Summit for all Australians to gain a better appreciation of the needs and concerns of regional Australia; if so, why did the Reference Group invite all Coalition Members and Senators but only invited myself and Senator Mackay from the Australian Labor Party.

7 June 2000

1620 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Have the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs and other Ministers stated that the policy of mandatory detention of refugees is not inconsistent with Australia's international human rights obligations.
- (2) Did the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs receive advice from the Attorney-General's Department supporting this view; if so, will he provide a copy of that advice.
- (3) Does the advice does cover the (a) convention relating to the status of refugees, (b) international covenant on civil and political rights, (c) convention against torture and all forms of cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment and punishment and (d) convention on the rights of the child; if not, how is the policy of mandatory detention consistent with those conventions.

8 June 2000

1623 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) What is the estimated sum of Commonwealth funding that will be provided under the Forest Industry Structural Adjustment Package (FISAP) to (a) NSW, (b) Victoria, (c) WA and (d) Queensland in (i) 2000-01, (ii) 2001-02 and (iii) 2002-03.
- (2) What proportion of the Commonwealth FISAP funding to Victoria is to be allocated to the Regional Forest Agreements (RFA) regions of (a) Central Highlands, (b) East Gippsland, (c) Gippsland, (d) North East and (e) West.
- (3) What proportion of further Commonwealth FISAP funding to NSW is to be allocated to the RFA regions of (a) Eden, (b) North East and (c) Southern.

1627 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Will those Australians who are not able to take out private health insurance prior to the 31 June 2000 be permanently excluded from the Government's scheme to allow people to join a private health insurance fund and remain at the same rate.

- (2) Will the Government be providing hardship exemptions for those who are not able to join a private health insurance fund prior to 30 June 2000, including those persons who (a) were members for more than two years but not on 30 June 2000, (b) were overseas on that date, (c) were in the Australian Defence Force on that date, (d) were working in remote areas without access to private health facilities on that date, (e) are unemployed, (f) were in prison on that date, (g) have a lower than normal income at that time and (h) have recently arrived in Australia, yet may or will be able to, join a private health insurance fund after 1 July 2000.

19 June 2000

1633 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Australian Tax Office (ATO) known since August 1996 that Chaucer's Reception Centre in Melbourne was not paying superannuation on behalf of its employees; if so, why did it not take action until after JB and TM Catering went bankrupt in March 2000.
- (2) What prospects do Chaucer's former employees have of recovering the superannuation contributions to which they are entitled.
- (3) How many other firms have not paid their employees their entitlements under the Superannuation Guarantee.
- (4) Is the ATO enforcing Superannuation Guarantee compliance or has implementation of the goods and services tax precluded it from doing so.

1635 **MR O'KEEFE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What action has he taken to give effect to undertakings given in his answer to the question without notice (*Hansard*, 30 September 1999, page 11091) regarding alcohol based essence mixtures available to minors in supermarkets.
- (2) What is the present situation regarding an Australia New Zealand Food Authority labelling agreement.
- (3) What proposals have been put by the Commonwealth to the States to secure a uniform national agreement to resolve this problem.
- (4) What has been the response by each State.
- (5) What undertakings have been given by manufacturers and retailers on this issue.

1640 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) At how many of 1,000 seminars conducted around Australia as part of the Australian Tax Office's GST communication and education campaign was there a capacity to translate questions or answers into languages other than English.
- (2) How many staff are available to translate or answer questions in languages other than English during the 159 000 calls to call centres made each month in 2000.
- (3) How many of the 9 million booklets sent to every household and business in Australia have contained information in languages other than English.

- (4) How many of 27 different print advertisements that appeared 81 times across 9 rural newspapers, 542 times across 31 metropolitan papers, 4866 times in 394 regional papers, and 1266 times in suburban metropolitan papers, have been in languages other than English.
- (5) How many television advertisements which have run on 15 metropolitan and 22 regional stations and radio advertisements for 29 metropolitan and 193 regional radio stations, have been in languages other than English.
- (6) How many of the 34 million hits on the ATO website could have accessed information in languages other than English.
- (7) How many of the 2.4 million new tax system registration kits posted out to businesses contained information in languages other than English.

1641 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Does the modelling in the (a) Fightback Package indicate that a 100% abolition of fuel excise on both petrol and diesel would produce a 5.74% cut in road transport costs and (b) new tax system package indicate that a 50% cut in diesel fuel excise after a GST input credit produces a 6.7% reduction in road transport costs,
- (2) If so, why does a 50% cut in diesel fuel excise produce a greater percentage reduction in road transport costs now than a 100% abolition of fuel excise would have caused in 1992.

20 June 2000

1642 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many separation breakdowns in controlled airspace have occurred in each year since 1990.
- (2) Is each separation breakdown in controlled airspace investigated.
- (3) Which authority or organisation investigates separation breakdowns in controlled airspace.
- (4) Who makes the decision to investigate or not investigate separation breakdowns in controlled airspace.
- (5) From those investigations, what factors were found to contribute to separation breakdowns in controlled airspace.
- (6) Are other categories used for the measurement and recording of airspace incidents, if so, what are they.
- (7) Are incidents in uncontrolled airspace recorded and reported; if so, by which authority or organisation.

1646 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the (a) membership, (b) role and (c) function of the (i) Management Board and (ii) Corporate Business Forum of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
- (2) What changes have there been to the structure of corporate governance at the ATO since 1995.

- (3) What will be the (a) membership, (b) role and (c) powers of the Board of Taxation.
- 1647 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—How many Australian Taxation Office First Assistant Commissioners are being paid within the SES Band 1 pay scale.
- 1648 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Is the Minister able to say whether the Latvian Procurator General is drawing up a request for the extradition of former SD Lieutenant Konrad Kalejs to Latvia.
 - (2) Have representatives of the Australian Government confirmed this directly with the authorities in Riga.
 - (3) What time frame does the Australian Government anticipate before it receives the extradition request.
 - (4) Will the proposed Australia/Latvia extradition treaty be completed in time to respond to a Latvian request for Mr Kalejs.
 - (5) What procedure has the Government established for evaluating the extradition request once an extradition treaty between Australia and Latvia comes into existence.
 - (6) Will the Minister respond to the request.
 - (7) Will the extradition request be evaluated by a magistrate; if so, will the magistrate have to evaluate whether there is a *prima facie* case on the balance of probabilities that Mr Kalejs was a Nazi war criminal.
 - (8) Will the Minister request the Australian Federal Police to interview the remaining three witnesses in Latvia in order to establish a *prima facie* case so that an Australian magistrate might accede to an extradition request for Latvia.
 - (9) What measures are the Government taking to prevent Mr Kalejs fleeing Australia.

21 June 2000

- 1656 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he able to say whether activists from the China Democracy Party including (a) We-li Xu, Yong-min Qin, You-cai Wang (Executive Chairs), (b) Xin-jiao You (Chairman of China National Fu Xing Party), (c) Jian-guo Cha, Ming-hong Gao, Shi-jun Liu (Chairpeople of the CDP: Beijing and Tianjin branch), (d) Yu-fu Zhu, Qing-xiang Mao (Cadres of Zhejiang Committee), (f) Ze-chen Zhu, Wen-jiang Wang (Cadres of CDP Liaoning branch), (g) Shi-dong Tun (Cadres of CDP Hunan branch), (h) Shi-chang Xiao (Secretary-General of CDP Hubei branch), (i) Shen-ping Fu, Li-fa Han (Cadres of CDP Shanghai branch), (j) Tian-xiang Yu (Cadres of CDP Gansu branch), (k) Feng Yu (Chairman of CDP Hebei branch), (l) Xian-bin Liu (Cadre of CDP Sichan Branch) and the Cadres of other CDP branches and (m) Xin-heng Yang (Shanghai), Gui-hua Cai (Shanghai), Xi-an Li (Zhejiang), Zheng-ming Zhu (Zhejiang), Liang-qing Shen (Anhui), Xian-li Liu (Anhui), Yi-ping fan (Guangdong), Tao Yang (Guangdong), Zhi-lou Li

(Guangxi), Wang-bao She (Sichan), Cheng-ming Guo (Liaoning), Xin-min Guo (Gansu), Fong-shan Wang (Gansu), You-ju Zhang (Hebei), Zhong-ho Chen (Hebei), Jin Liu (Hebei), Jian Zhang (Hebei) have been arrested by the Chinese authorities.

- (2) Has the Australian Government made inquiries into the welfare and whereabouts of these individuals; if so, (a) what is their current situation and (b) where are they.
- (3) Will he raise the arrest of these individuals at the Australia-China Human Rights Dialogue in Canberra in June 2000.

1657 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Do wage and salary earners with HECS debts who have elected to pay through the tax system have a component of this debt taken out each pay period which is paid to the Australian Tax Office (ATO) as extra income tax.
- (2) Does the ATO hold this contribution in the employer's group tax account and during August each year, does it transfer the monies across to the HECS account in a single yearly transaction.
- (3) Does the ATO apply an indexation to the HECS debt at 1 June each year.
- (4) Does the indexation occur before the monies collected through the tax system in a financial year are deducted from the debt; if so, is interest charged on the sum already paid back through the tax system but not deducted from the debt.
- (5) Does the level of inflation determine the indexation rate.
- (6) Has Treasury undertaken modelling to examine the effect of inflationary pressures caused by the implementation of the GST on the cost of a range of student HECS repayments; if not, why not.
- (7) If so, what would (a) be the increase in the HECS indexation rate for each percentage increase in inflation and (b) this translate to in real cost per annum to the person repaying the HECS loan in the income brackets (i) below \$22 346, (ii) \$22 346 to \$23 565, (iii) \$23 566 to \$25 393, (iv) \$25 394 to \$29 456, (v) \$29 457 to \$35 551, (vi) \$35 552 to \$37 420, (vii) \$37 421 to \$40 223 and (viii) \$40 224 and above.

22 June 2000

1658 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Was the unemployment rate for the statistical local area for Fairfield, NSW 11.3% for the March Quarter 2000.
- (2) Based on the quarterly figures, does Fairfield have the highest rate of unemployment in the Sydney region.
- (3) Is this the highest quarterly unemployment rate for Fairfield since June 1999.
- (4) How many Job Network sites are located in Fairfield.
- (5) During the tendering process for Job Network 2 was there any intention to make the Job Network sites in a particular region relative to the labour markets; if not, why not.

- (6) Does the Fairfield-Liverpool statistical region have an unemployment rate of 8.5%.
 - (7) Is the Fairfield-Liverpool statistical region a different region to the small area labour market of Fairfield.
 - (8) How many job seekers are registered with each Job Network site in the electoral Division of Prospect.
 - (9) How many full time and part time positions have been filled in the electoral Division of Prospect through the services of the Job Network sites located in the electoral Division of Prospect.
- 1664 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—What funding was provided by the National Health and Medical Research Council in 1998 and 1999 for research into lower back pain.
- 1668 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Prior to the 1998 election did he give a commitment to a group representing apple growers from the Orange district and the then National Party candidate for Calare, that if re-elected, the Coalition would hold an inquiry into the fresh produce (including apple) industry; if so, is he able to say when the inquiry will take place.

26 June 2000

- 1673 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Was the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child signed for Australia on 22 August 1990.
 - (2) Did the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties table its report on the convention in the Senate on 10 November 1998.
 - (3) With which Departments must the Government consult, and from which Departments must it have input, before it finalises and tables its response to the report.
 - (4) When did his Department first seek consultation with, and receive input from, each of the other Departments.
- MR TANNER:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1675 - 1692)—
- (1) How many individual transactions with individual members of the public were conducted by each agency in the Minister's portfolio in (a) 1998-99 and (b) 1999-2000, and if available, what are the forecast figures for (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02, (e) 2002-03 and (f) 2003-04.
 - (2) What definition of transaction is used to determine these figures.
 - (3) What proportion of these transactions were or are expected to be conducted online.
 - (4) What was the total cost of administering these transactions for each agency in (a) 1998-99 and (b) 1999-2000 and what is the estimated cost for (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02, (e) 2002-03 and (f) 2003-04.
 - (5) What was the total cost of administering the online transactions in (a) 1998-99 and (b) 1999-2000 and what is the estimated cost for (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02, (e) 2002-03 and (f) 2003-04.

- 1675 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 1676 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 1681 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.
- 1685 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.
- 1687 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.
- 1689 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 1692 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

27 June 2000

- 1694 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Did the Commonwealth obtain permission to use music and other intellectual property of Mr Joe Cocker and Mushroom Records before the Government put to air advertisements concerning the Goods and Services Tax.
 - (2) If not, (a) has the Commonwealth paid Mr Cocker, (b) may Mushroom Records, as owners of the intellectual property, set the price in conformance with accepted copyright industry practice, in substitution for a legal suit against the Commonwealth on grounds of breach of copyright and (c) has Mr Cocker and Mushroom Records sued or threatened to sue the Commonwealth for unpaid royalties.
 - (3) If the Commonwealth did obtain permission, has the Commonwealth paid a sum for the use and broadcast of intellectual property in the hands of Mr Joe Cocker and Mushroom Records; if so, (a) what was the sum and (b) for what goods or services was the money spent.
- 1699 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What is the justification for the Government's decision in the 2000-2001 Budget to introduce an additional 0.036 cents per litre to the aviation fuel excise to fund Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) activities.
 - (2) Why is the levy imposed on the airlines, who are the consumers of the services, whereas the airports, the suppliers of the service, are not charged.
 - (3) Why are the airlines, the consumers of the airports' pricing arrangements paying the levy whereas for telecommunications and postal services, the ACCC levy is imposed on Telstra and Australia Post, that is the suppliers of the services the subject of ACCC prices monitoring.
 - (4) Was consideration given in determining the levy to reconcile actual levy collections against the \$900 000 that is supposed to be raised for the ACCC.
 - (5) Will the levy result in increased levy collections and provide a windfall to the Government, given higher than expected airline activity and increased fuel usage.
- 1700 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Was the Passenger Movement Charge on international departing passengers implemented to cover the cost of border control services of immigration, customs and quarantine services at international airports; if so, are monies collected under the charge directed towards the costs of those services.
- (2) Does the charge collect more than is required to meet these costs.
- (3) Are Government agencies which the charge was supposed to fund experiencing difficulties at the newly privatised airports because the Government does not allocate the money collected to meet the agencies' direct costs.

1702 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Since the Senate Estimates Committee hearing in May 2000, has there been any increase in the total sum, including travel, accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses, paid to Dr Jack Best for the Rural Stocktake report on medical education facilities Dr Best undertook for his Department.
- (2) Has Dr Best undertaken other work for him or his Department since then.
- (3) When will Dr Best's report be released.
- (4) Were the recommendations made by Dr Best the basis for budget decisions to provide funding for three new university departments of rural health and nine new clinical schools to undertake relevant undergraduate training.
- (5) Has a decision been made about where these new departments of rural health will be located; if so, (a) what was the process used to decide which universities would be funded to establish these departments, (b) which universities have been successful and (c) what funding has been agreed in each case; if not, (a) when will the decision be made public and (b) what process is being used to reach the decision about which universities will be allocated funds for the new departments.
- (6) Have decisions been made about the sum of additional funding to be provided to each of the medical schools for undergraduate training in rural health; if so, (a) what was the process used to arrive at these decisions, (b) what sums have been agreed in each case and (c) when are these funds to be made available; if not, when and how will the decisions be made.
- (7) Has Dr Best made representations to him or to staff in his office or his Department to recommend which medical schools should receive funds to establish the three new rural health departments.
- (8) Has Dr Best made recommendations about the amount of funding for each of the successful universities.
- (9) Has Dr Best made representations to him or to staff in his office or his Department about the amount of funding to be provided to medical schools for undergraduate clinical programs in rural health.

28 June 2000

1709 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) What are the names of the Australian delegates to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conferences in 1998, 1999 and 2000.

- (2) How did Australian (a) Government; (b) employers and (c) workers delegates vote on each convention and recommendation adopted by each of the Conferences.
- (3) To what positions did Australia seek election at the Conferences.
- (4) Which members of the Far East Asia and Pacific sub-region were elected as members and deputy members of the ILO Governing Body at the Conferences.
- (5) Where and when will the next regional meeting be held.
- (6) What ILO Conventions have been considered for ratification by Australia since 1997 and when were they considered.
- (7) By what process and with what outcome were the Conventions considered.

1710 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Will a special input credit be available for wholesale sales tax paid on demonstration motor vehicles sold by motor dealers after 1 July 2000; if not, why not.
- (2) Is the Government aware of concerns expressed by motor traders, about the cost of the proposed treatment of demonstration vehicles to their businesses; if so, (a) what sum does Treasury estimate this treatment will cost (i) the motor trading industry as a whole and (ii) the average new car dealer and (b) how does the Government justify placing this additional cost on motor traders.
- (3) Is the Government aware of concerns expressed by some businesses at the cashflow implications of the Pay As You Go instalment system; if so, what is the Government's response to these concerns.

29 June 2000

1712 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Which individual recommendations of the Glenn Report tabled in 1995 relating to (a) The External Environment, (b) Vision for ADF Personnel 2005, (c) Principles of Personnel Policy Strategy, (d) Employment and Work Practices, including phased careers, staffing, flexible work practices and social justice, (e) Reward, Recognition and Entitlements, including an independent approach, rank, the pay system, allowances, accommodation and relocation, non-financial recognition and presentation, (f) Support for Members and Families, (g) The Reserves, (h) A Learning Organisation, (i) Setting the Balance - A New Management Style, (j) Strategic Links - The Personnel Process, (k) Industrial Relations in the ADF, (l) Supporting Personnel Management, (m) Change and Communication and (n) Major Challenges have been implemented, and when and how were they implemented.
- (2) Which specific recommendations have not been implemented.
- (3) Which of the recommendations not implemented are progressing and when and how are they are likely to be implemented.
- (4) Have any recommendations been rejected; if so, why.

1715 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—In the transition to the New Tax System, will real estate management fees for residential property be GST free until 1 July 2005 if signed before 2 December 1998, while fees for commercial properties will be GST free until 1 July 2005 if signed before 8 July 1999; if so, why.

1722 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Does the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) still have an Information Technology department; if so, (a) what is the cost of that department, (b) how many staff does it employ and (c) what is its function.
- (2) What is the total of the financial penalties levied upon EDS for non-achievement of service credits to date and over the first year of the contract.
- (3) Has the ATO hired a company to ascertain whether or not the ATO has achieved savings by outsourcing its IT department to EDS; if so, (a) what is the name of the company, (b) what is its brief, (c) what is the cost to the ATO of the review and (d) did the company have to win a tender to carry out this work.

14 August 2000

1734 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Has he or his Department received a report on the feasibility in each State and Territory of a national insurance scheme to protect employee entitlements in cases of business insolvency; if so, (a) who compiled the report, (b) what was the cost, (c) to whom has the report been provided and (d) will the report be tabled or made public; if so, when; if not, why not.

1735 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Has the Minister received any communication or advice, either written or oral, from the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, his office, Department or anyone acting under his instructions or advice in relation to the payment of union fees by payroll deduction; if so, (a) what was that advice, (b) when was it provided, (c) was that advice communicated to Telstra; if so, what was the nature of that communication and when was it provided and (d) was that advice communicated to any other Government instrumentality; if so, to which instrumentality and when.

1736 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Does his letter to me and other Australians of 20 June 2000 state that some people who have money can afford to minimise their tax through schemes; if so, what action is the Government taking to crack down on these schemes.
- (2) Does his letter say that the old system discriminates against country Australia; if so, will a 10% GST have a more adverse effect on country Australia than metropolitan Australia because prices on many items are already higher in country Australia, and that adding 10% to the cost of the item will increase the city-country price differential.
- (3) Does his letter state that the old tax system contains hidden taxes; if so, did he expressly reject Labor amendments which would have required the GST to be shown on price tags, and that as a result the GST will itself be a hidden tax.

- (4) Does his letter describe capital gains tax concessions as a benefit for older Australians, small businesses and farmers; if so, (a) has his Government elsewhere described the capital gains tax changes as revenue neutral and (b) if the capital gains tax changes are not revenue neutral, what is the cost to revenue of them.

1737 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Has the Government defined what is an education course in relation to the application of the goods and services tax on education; if so, (a) how is that definition applied to adult and community education courses and (b) when was the definition released to the public.

1738 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the membership of the Flood Liaison Committee.
- (2) What are the terms of reference of the Flood Liaison Committee.
- (3) Are minutes available from meetings of the Flood Liaison Committee; if so, will he provide copies.
- (4) How often and when has the Flood Liaison Committee met.
- (5) Has the committee taken any action concerning flood mitigation works and the provision of information concerning areas in risk of flooding.
- (6) Has the committee made any recommendations regarding improving the performance of the insurance industry on claims for water damage.
- (7) Does the Flood Liaison Committee have any formal standing or backing to implement its findings.

1739 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Does Taxpack 2000 contain two separate instructions for the spouse superannuation contributions rebate which request taxpayers to calculate their spouse's assessable income and also their taxable income.
- (2) Which calculation is used for the purposes of claiming the spouse contribution rebate.
- (3) Will the two different calculations result in some taxpayers inadvertently over claiming the rebate and facing penalties from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
- (4) Will the ATO levy penalties on taxpayers who inadvertently over claim the spouse rebate in 1999-2000.
- (5) How many erroneous spouse rebate claims were made in 1997-98 and 1998-99.
- (6) Were penalties levied by the ATO against taxpayers who erroneously claimed the spouse rebate in 1997-98 and 1998-99.
- (7) What is the ATO's assessment of the number of expected erroneous spouse rebate claims for 1999-2000.
- (8) What is the estimated cost of the superannuation contributions for spouse rebate in each financial year it has been operating.
- (9) What is the total value of superannuation contributions that have been made on behalf of spouses under the rebate scheme in each financial year since the rebate has been operating.

- (10) Will he provide the RIM Group modelling that was undertaken on the cost of the superannuation contribution spouse rebate which the ATO confirmed had been undertaken in evidence before the Senate Select Committee on Superannuation in 1997 and which was originally requested by the Senate Committee in 1997; if not, why not.

1740 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—

- (1) When did the Centre for Global Financial Services change its name to AXISS.
- (2) What was the reason behind the name change.
- (3) What benefits does the Government expect from the name change.
- (4) Were consultants used to determine the name change; if so, what were the costs and names of consultants used for the name change.
- (5) Did the name change involve signage, letterhead and other related costs; if so, what were the costs of those changes.
- (6) What was the total cost involved in changing the name from Centre for Global Financial Services to AXISS.
- (7) What is the cost of developing the Australian Financial Services Training Alliance (AFSTA).
- (8) What is the cost of developing the AFSTA website.
- (9) From where are the funds for the AFSTA coming.
- (10) Will members of the AFSTA be charged or pay a fee for being a part of AFSTA and having access to the AFSTA website; if so, (a) what will be that fee, (b) who will collect it and (c) how will it be collected.

1741 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What checks have been put in place to ensure that only those with a genuine entitlement to, and requirement for, an Australian Business Number (ABN) have been issued with one.
- (2) How many cases have there been of organisations being issued with more than one ABN when they only applied for one ABN.

1742 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) What is the total sum of grants given by the Commonwealth Government to the University of Western Sydney (UWS) in each year since 1995.
- (2) What is the projected sum of total grants for each of the next three years.
- (3) What sum has the Commonwealth Government given to UWS under Commonwealth research funding schemes in each year since 1995.
- (4) What is the estimated sum of grants to be given to UWS under Commonwealth research funding schemes in each of the next three years.
- (5) For each year since 1995 how many research students at UWS were (a) in Commonwealth funded places and (b) full fee paying students.
- (6) What is the estimated number of research students at UWS for each of the next three years who will be (a) in Commonwealth funded places and (b) full fee paying students.

- (7) How do the figures referred to in parts (1) to (6) compare with (a) other regional universities and (b) the “Sandstone” universities.
- 1743 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
Is he, his Department or anyone on his behalf aware of international aviation safety incidents occurring as a result of aircraft landing or taking off in cross winds of 25 knots or more; if so, what are the circumstances of each incident.
- 1744 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
Has he, his Department or any one on his behalf received representations from the Australian International Pilots Association to the effect that the Association is concerned that safety at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport is subservient to noise abatement demands; if so, will he take action to investigate those concerns and what will that action be.
- 1745 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has the Airline Pilots Association designated Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport as a “red star” airport; if so, why.
 - (2) Will he investigate the concerns of the Airline Pilots Association; if so, what action will he take.
- 1746 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
Further to the answer to question No. 1505 (*Hansard*, 15 August 2000, page 17404), will the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau and Airservices Australia be considering a definition of “an acceptable safety hazard” as a benchmark for their review of using the short runways at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport with up to 25 knots of crosswind; if not, against what criteria will safety considerations be evaluated.
- 1747 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1302 (*Hansard*, 31 May 2000, page 15811), with which Departments is his Department consulting on the legislation to implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
 - (2) When did his Department first seek consultation with, and receive input from, each of the other Departments.
- 1748 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) Did the Prime Minister in answer to a question without notice (*Hansard*, 5 June 1997, page 5101) describe the closure of the St George Campus of the University of New South Wales as a decision of the governing authority of the University implementing the very clear government policy of greater autonomy for universities.
 - (2) On 11 March 1999 did he in a press release support the transfer of the site to Trinity Grammar for the establishment of a school, commenting that students from southern Sydney remain well served by higher education.
 - (3) Did he meet with Senator Tierney on 21 June 2000 to talk about the St George Campus.
 - (4) Did Senator Tierney ask him to consider releasing Federal funds to ensure a continuation of a tertiary presence at the St George campus.

- (5) Are Federal funds to be released to ensure a tertiary presence on the campus; if so, what sum and when will the money be released.

1749 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) Has he been invited to attend the Young Australian Writers' Awards sponsored by the Australian Children's Literary Board; if so, how many times has he been invited.
- (2) Has he ever attended the Awards; if not, why not.
- (3) Has he been invited to meet with the committee of the Australian Children's Literary Board; if so, how many times has he been invited.
- (4) Has he met with the Board; if not, why not.
- (5) Has he been approached for funding for the Australian Children's Literary Board; if so, (a) by whom and (b) what sum was requested.
- (6) Was a request for funding refused; if so, why was it refused.

1750 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many registrars worked in the (a) Federal and (b) Family Courts as at 30 June 2000.
- (2) How many registrars work in the (a) Federal and (b) Family Courts after 3 July 2000.
- (3) How many Federal Magistrates were appointed and ready to hear matters in the Federal Magistrates' Court on 3 July 2000.
- (4) What are the filing fees for the Magistrates' Court.
- (5) If the filing fees have not been settled, when will they be settled.
- (6) What are the rules and procedures for the Magistrates' Court.
- (7) If the rules and procedures for the Court have not been settled, when will they be settled.
- (8) When and how will practitioners and litigants of the Court know what the filing fees, rules and procedures of the Court are.
- (9) Are all Magistrates' Court registries to be physically separate from Family and Federal Court registries.
- (10) Will each Magistrates' Court have its own (a) library, (b) staff and (c) facilities.
- (11) Has the Government budgeted to appoint further magistrates if required.
- (12) Does the Magistrates' Court budget make specific provision for alternative dispute resolution; if so, what sum is provided.
- (13) Will the Family Court still have an alternative dispute resolution role.
- (14) What sum of the Family Court budget is directed to alternative dispute resolution in (a) 1999-2000 and (b) 2000-2001.

1751 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) For each Statistical Local Area (SLA), (a) how many authorised community based civil marriage celebrants are located in that area, (b) how many ministers of religion of recognised denominations who are registered under Division 1 of Part VI of the Marriage Act are located in that area, (c) how

many state or territory government civil celebrants are located in that area and (d) what is the population of that area.

- (2) How does he determine whether there is a need for civil celebrants in a particular area.
- (3) In respect of the special needs category of authorised civil marriage celebrants, (a) how many community based civil marriage celebrants are currently authorised in this category and (b) in respect of each celebrant so authorised, what is the relevant special needs community.
- (4) How many community based authorised civil marriage celebrants are there and how many of these celebrants possess a relevant civil marriage celebrant qualification.
- (5) How many written complaints were made to his Department about community based civil marriage celebrants in 1999-2000.
- (6) How many complaints were resolved with no formal action taken against the relevant celebrant.
- (7) How many members does each association of civil celebrants recognised by him have.
- (8) When will the review which was announced in April 1997 be complete.

1752 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Are there guidelines about how the \$20 million of Commonwealth money over 4 years for diversionary programs in the Northern Territory is to be spent; if so, (a) what are they and (b) by whom or by which Department were they developed.
- (2) Are there acquittal guidelines for the Commonwealth monies; if so, (a) what are they, (b) who or what Department developed them and (c) when were they developed.
- (3) Has the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet given any direction to his Department about how the first instalment of \$5 million, or any of the Commonwealth grant monies, is to be spent by the NT Government; if so, what were those directions.
- (4) Do the guidelines require that some of the first \$5 million go towards the provision of an Aboriginal interpretation service.
- (5) Will that interpretation service be an extension of the current NT interpretation service or will a new service be created.
- (6) Will a new service be funded; if not, why not.
- (7) What sum is to be directed to an interpretation service and what proportion of that sum will be (a) Commonwealth and (b) NT money.
- (8) If the money is used to expand the current Northern Territory interpretation service and fund other organisations to be able to access that service, will organisations currently funded by Commonwealth money, for example, the Aboriginal Legal Service, be funded by the extra Commonwealth money to access the interpretation service.
- (9) Will the number of Aboriginal languages offered by the interpretation service be expanded; if so, how.
- (10) Will more interpreters be trained; if so, where.

- (11) Will any of the \$5 million of Commonwealth funds be used to increase police numbers in the NT; if so, will those positions specifically target diversionary programs; if so, how.
- (12) Has the format of the diversionary programs that the NT intends to implement been agreed upon; if so, (a) what is that format, (b) who will run the programs, (c) which juvenile offenders will be targeted and (d) where will those programs run.
- (13) Does his Department have any expertise or specialist knowledge in diversionary programs for Aboriginal juvenile offenders; if so, how is that expertise being used in terms of developing the NT program.
- (14) Is his Department consulting with any non-government agencies or bodies in the NT about the scope or the form of diversionary programs.
- (15) Is he able to say whether the NT Government is consulting with non-government agencies about the scope or format of diversionary programs.
- (16) What is the timetable for commencement of all or any of these diversionary programs.

1753 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In the Federal Court in (a) 1997-98, (b) 1998-99 and (c) 1999-2000 how many applications concerned disability discrimination under the Disability Discrimination Act.
- (2) How many applications referred to in part (1) resulted in an award of costs against the (a) applicant and (b) respondent.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to research which identifies the extent to which the prospects of costs being awarded against applicants in disability discrimination matters deters potential applicants from commencing proceedings in the Federal Court; if so, how does the Government propose to address this barrier to disabled Australians achieving access to justice.
- (4) Has his Department conducted any evaluation of the impact of the legislative changes in the *Human Right Amendment Bill 1988* on disabled Australians; if not, is an evaluation planned.

1754 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—

- (1) What Federal Government funding has been provided to the Northern Territory for 2000-2001.
- (2) Has any of this sum been allocated for specific purposes; if so, what sums and for what purposes has the money been allocated.
- (3) What financial management and accountability measures are in place in respect of Federal Government funds allocated to the Northern Territory or for a purpose or purposes within the Northern Territory.

1755 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—

- (1) Is the Minister satisfied that Federal monies allocated to the NT Government or for purposes within the Northern Territory during 1999-2000 were expended for the purpose or purposes for which they were appropriated; if

so, is the Minister's satisfaction based on financial management and accountability procedures; if so, what are those procedures.

- (2) Has the Minister made appropriate inquiry regarding the expenditure of funds provided by the Federal Government to the NT Government or for purposes within the Northern Territory; if not, will the Minister conduct an appropriate audit to ensure that the monies have been expended for the purpose or purposes for which they were appropriated.

1756 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Will a wife's Partner Service Pension be included as assessable income under Part B of the Family Tax Benefit package.
- (2) Will this mean that a family which receives DVA benefits for war service of \$509 per week will be about \$44 per week worse off.
- (3) What arrangements will he put in place to remedy that situation.
- (4) Will those arrangements restore the status quo or will they include an additional sum to compensate ex-servicemen and their partners for the effects of the GST.
- (5) Will any compensation be permanent rather than just transitional during the period of the GST implementation.

1757 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Has the Australian Electoral Commissioner been forced to correct evidence given to a Senate Committee Inquiry into the provision of information by the Electoral Commissioner to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) for the purpose of a mail out on the Goods and Services Tax.
- (2) If so, what were the circumstances in which the Electoral Commissioner was forced to correct his earlier evidence.
- (3) What is the correct chronology of correspondence between Mr Becker and Mr Carmody regarding the provision of information by the Electoral Commissioner to the ATO in the period since 1 April 2000.

1758 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the design capacity of the declared road reservation for land on the eastern side of the Murrumbateman by-pass, NSW, including the (a) size of the reserve, (b) vehicle speed and (c) number of carriageways of the road used as the basis of determining that reserve.
- (2) When was this reservation made, and by whom was it made.
- (3) Are other reserves declared in the vicinity of Murrumbateman.

1759 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the term of the peppercorn lease over the Tarcoola to Alice Springs railway line which the Government provided the Asia Pacific Transport Consortium.

- (2) What agreement does the Government have with the Consortium about the management, maintenance and upgrade of this line during the period of the lease.
- (3) What agreement does the Government have with the Consortium about the state of repair or condition the track is to be in at the end of the lease.
- (4) What is the financial value of that line.

1760 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many nights has the current Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Airservices Australia spent out of Australia since January 2000.
- (2) Which countries has the current CEO visited since January 2000.
- (3) What was the duration and purpose of each visit.
- (4) Did the Airservices Australia board approve each visit.
- (5) What was the total cost of this travel, including airfares, accommodation, expenses and allowances.
- (6) When does the employment contract of the current CEO expire.
- (7) Has the CEO confirmed that he will not be seeking a further term; if so, when did he advise that he was not seeking a further term.
- (8) What travel is planned for the CEO between now and the end of his employment contract.
- (9) What is the process for appointing a CEO for Airservices Australia and who has the authority to make the appointment.
- (10) Has the process for appointing a CEO commenced; if not, when and where will the position be advertised.
- (11) What is the financial value of the salary and conditions package for the CEO.
- (12) What will be the financial value of the employment contract offered to the next Airservices Australia CEO.

1761 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Are all imported buses and coaches required to comply with Australian Design Rules (ADRs); if so, what legislation or regulations specify the requirement.
- (2) Is there a proposal to change this requirement; if so, (a) which States, organisations or individuals have requested a change and (b) for what purpose.
- (3) What would be the effect (a) of any change on the safety of passengers travelling in buses and coaches and (b) on the cost of an imported bus or coach relative to an Australian made bus or coach.
- (4) Which agency, department or authority is responsible for auditing imported buses and coaches to ensure they comply with ADRs.
- (5) How many audits has that organisation conducted in each year since 1995, and how quickly are audits conducted after the date of importation.

- (6) How many buses and coaches were imported in each year since 1995 and from which countries were they imported.
- (7) When audited, how many of those buses and coaches were found to not comply with ADRs.

1762 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did he issue a media release dated 24 May 2000 titled “Sale of National Rail Corporation to Proceed Shortly”.
- (2) What is the timeframe for proceeding with the sale.
- (3) What are the sale management arrangements agreed between the shareholders to govern the terms of the sale process.
- (4) Will the sale arrangements be released to the public.
- (5) Will the process be an open tender process and who will make the decision on the preferred buyer.
- (6) Will public sector rail organisations be permitted to bid to purchase National Rail in their own right or as part of a consortia; if not, why not.

MR HATTON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1763 - 1780)—

- (1) Is the Minister’s Department and agencies within the Minister’s portfolio compliant in respect of the Goods and Services Tax.
- (2) What action did the Minister’s Department and agencies within the Minister’s portfolio take to ensure that they were GST ready by 1 July 2000.
- (3) Is the Minister able to guarantee that no agency within the Minister’s portfolio will suffer negative impacts on its budget or services due to the GST; if not, or if the guarantee was subsequently proved incorrect, would the Minister be prepared to resign.

1763 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1764 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1765 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Treasurer.

1766 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1767 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1768 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1769 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.

1770 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1771 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1772 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Defence.

1773 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.

1774 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1775 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.

- 1776 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources.
- 1777 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 1778 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.
- 1779 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 1780 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 1781 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Did he ask for a report from Navy about the allegations in the *Bulletin* article of 16 May 2000 concerning an alleged cover up about the four deaths on HMAS *Westralia*; if so, (a) when and (b) what were the details requested of Navy.
 - (2) Has the report been provided to him; if so, when was it provided.
 - (3) Will he make the report publicly available; if so, when; if not, why not.
 - (4) Has he taken action on the report; if so, what; if not, why not.
- 1782 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Did he request a report from the Navy into the awarding of bravery medals and awards from the *Westralia* tragedy; if so, when did he request the report.
 - (2) Has he received the report; if so, when did he receive it.
 - (3) Will he make the report publicly available; if not, why not.
 - (4) Were families advised in writing that they could write to the Chief of Navy about the matter; if so, when; if not, why not.
 - (5) What action has been taken in response to the report.
 - (6) Has the citation awarded to Leading Seaman Bradley Meek been upgraded; if not, why not.
- 1783 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) What funding did the Government grant to the University of Melbourne for the purpose of providing student accommodation in (a) 1973-74, (b) 1974-75, (c) 1975-76, (d) 1976-1977 and (e) 1977-78.
 - (2) Is the Government aware of the University of Melbourne's plans to sell houses purchased for the purpose of providing student accommodation; if so, is the Government aware of what the University intends to do with the proceeds of those sales.
 - (3) Has he, his advisers or his Department discussed the sale of these houses with the University of Melbourne; if so, what are the details.
 - (4) What alternative strategies is the Government putting in place to ensure the adequate provision of affordable student accommodation for University of Melbourne students.
- 1784 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Commonwealth, State and Territory Transport Ministers sign draft transport standards under the Disability Discrimination Act in April 1999.
 - (2) If so, have the standards been gazetted; if not, why not.

1785 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has an environmental impact statement been undertaken for National Rail's Adelaide Freight Terminal and shunting facility at Islington and its impact in neighbouring residential areas, including Kilburn.
- (2) Has the Government considered funding a buffer zone at Kilburn to assist in the noise problem; if so, what was the nature and cost of the proposal.
- (3) Will documents to potential purchasers relating to the proposed sale of National Rail refer to the environmental difficulties associated with the operation of the Islington Depot and the community campaign for a buffer zone, including its cost.
- (4) What environmental impact will any extension of the Islington freight terminal have on the surrounding community as a result of work arising from the development of the Alice Springs to Darwin line.

1786 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has he noted the recommendation in the report of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, ordered to be printed by the British House of Commons on 18 July 2000, that the United Kingdom sign the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention and that the Government bring forward legislation to give effect to its provisions and facilitate early ratification.
- (2) Is he able to say which states have (a) signed, (b) ratified or (c) acceded to the Convention since his answer to question No. 2436 (*Hansard*, 2 March 1998, page 147).
- (3) Will he bring up-to-date the information in parts (4), (5) and (6) of his answer to question No 2436.

1787 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Where are the locations of access points to Botany Bay in the event of an aircraft emergency in the Bay.
- (2) What are the evacuation points for vessels to unload injured passengers who may be rescued from the water and how far are those access points from the St George Hospital.
- (3) Has the Government considered the need for additional access points.
- (4) Has his attention been drawn to Rockdale City Council's proposed repairs and modifications to the Brighton Jetty which would make the structure wider than normal to enable a vehicle such as an ambulance to drive down the jetty and then turn around at the end and to allow boats to come alongside in various weather conditions.
- (5) Is the jetty ideally located as an emergency access point to the Bay; if so, will his Department investigate the proposal with a view to the Commonwealth providing financial assistance for the project.

1788 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many operational changes affecting how air traffic is managed have been implemented at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport since (a) 1 April 1996 and (b) 1 August 1999.

- (2) How many operational changes affecting air traffic management are planned for implementation in the period 1 August to 1 October 2000.
- (3) Have the failure rates of the Australian Advanced Air Traffic System (TAAATS) equipment increased in the period July 1999 to May 2000; if so, why.
- (4) What are the failure rates for the TAAATS equipment for June and July 2000.
- (5) Has he had discussions with Airservices Australia about the concerns of the Civil Air union published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 28 July 2000; if so, what was the substance of the discussions and how does Airservices Australia plan to deal with the concerns.

1789 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What was the budget for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000 and (c) 2000-01.
- (2) How much of each of those budget amounts was or is earmarked for salaries for legal officers.
- (3) When those salary components were identified, were any external comparisons made to remuneration of solicitors in private practice or to legal officers in other Commonwealth agencies; if not, why not.
- (4) How many solicitors at Level 2 or above have left the DPP in the period January 1998 to August 2000.
- (5) How many of those who left the DPP in this period gave remuneration as a reason.
- (6) If the information sought in part (5) is not available, why not.
- (7) Is he able to say whether a solicitor at Legal 2 level in the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business base salary is \$81 692 with increments to \$86 247.

1790 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In determining the 2001 budget for Victorian Legal Aid, were the views of the Victoria Legal Aid Community Consultative Committee taken into account.
- (2) Did the budget process acknowledge the committee's concerns about the increase in unrepresented litigants, the extra burden on legal aid partners, for example private solicitors, community legal centres and other community organisations and, what the committee perceives as denial of access to justice to disadvantaged Victorians.
- (3) If the budget process did address the committee's concerns as described or in any other way, how were they addressed.
- (4) If the budget process did not address the committee's concerns as outlined or in any other way, why not.

1791 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Are there plans to change the nature or the processes of the Attorney-General's NGO Forum on Domestic Human Rights; if so, what are they.

- (2) If changes are planned, has consultation taken place with forum members about the nature of those changes; if not, why not.
 - (3) Will he recommend ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women; if not, why not.
 - (4) Will he recommend recognition of rape in armed conflict as grounds for refugee status on the basis of social exclusion as an ongoing form of persecution; if not, why not.
 - (5) Has the National Action Plan for Human Rights been completed and has the chapter on human rights education been included.
 - (6) Is there any provision in the 2000-2001 court administrative budget for an increase in the number of interpreters; if not, why not.
 - (7) What is he doing to ensure that international human rights obligations are not breached in relation to (a) waiting periods for access to social services and benefits for disabled and spousal immigrants and (b) the Government's policy on refugees and detention, the issuing of temporary visas and *refoulement* of refugees.
 - (8) What are the measures which his Department, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Defence are currently considering which need to be implemented before Australia can ratify the International Criminal Court Statute.
 - (9) What position has he put to the Minister for Foreign Affairs regarding the minimum age for recruitment and participation in hostilities.
 - (10) What is he doing to ensure that non government agencies are consulted during the Government's review of Australia's relationship with the United Nations human rights treaty system.
 - (11) Has his Department had any information from the Federal Court about cost orders in its human rights jurisdiction.
 - (12) Are mandatory sentencing laws contrary to Australia's human rights obligations; if not, why not.
 - (13) When will the Government's response to the Pregnancy and Work Inquiry be ready.
- 1792 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many RAAF personnel have been awarded the Australian Service Medal 1945-75 with clasp VIETNAM 1975.
 - (2) Did the Government subsequently decide to create a new clasp of the Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 for service in support of the UN Children's Emergency Fund in Vietnam in March and April 1975; if so, on what date was the new award gazetted.
 - (3) How many RAAF personnel have (a) applied for and (b) received the new clasp of the AASM 1945-75 referred to in part (2).
 - (4) Have personnel who were awarded the ASM VIETNAM 1975 been advised by Defence that their Medal has been cancelled and should be returned even

if that are not eligible for the replacement award of the AASM 1945-75; if so, what is the justification for this action.

1793 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the agreed timetable for the completion of the Atomic Test Participants Cancer Incidence and Mortality Study.
- (2) Is there an independent Steering Committee for the study; if so, who are the members of the Committee.
- (3) What sum, if any, did Defence spend on the study in 1999-2000.
- (4) What is the estimated funding allocation for the study for (a) 2000-01 and (b) subsequent years.
- (5) Through which Budget appropriation item is the study being funded.

1794 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the required process of enlistment that a civilian who wishes to join the Army Reserve must go through.
- (2) For the most recent year for which data is available, what is the average time in weeks, from the date of first application, that it takes to complete this enlistment process.
- (3) Can Regular Army personnel who have completed their full-time service automatically transfer to the Army Reserve if they wish to do so, if not, what further checks are they subjected to.
- (4) For the most recent year for which data is available, what is the average time in weeks to complete the transfer process from the Regular Army to the Army Reserve.

1795 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Government place a full-page advertisement entitled “Tax Cuts, the GST and Country Australia”, in the inner city Melbourne publication, *The Port Phillip Leader* on 26 June 2000.
- (2) How many “GST Chain” advertisements relating to regional Australia were placed in other inner city newspapers.
- (3) What was the cost of the advertisements.
- (4) How does the Government justify spending taxpayers’ funds on advertisements about regional Australia in inner city newspapers.

15 August 2000

1796 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Which Australian judges and former judges have served as judges in overseas countries.
- (2) In what country and for what period has each judge served.

1797 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With regard to Patricks dispute with the Maritime Union of Australia, is he able to say whether the Prime Minister told the 1998 NSW Liberal State Conference that Australia’s export future was at stake.

- (2) What was the cost of a dry container on the (a) Melbourne-Singapore, (b) Melbourne-Hong Kong, (c) Melbourne-Bangkok and (d) Melbourne-Seoul runs (i) prior to the dispute and (ii) in October 1999.
- (3) What is the cost of dry containers on the routes referred to in part (2) in August 2000.
- (4) Has the peak Australian shippers association said that despite the Government's professed concerns at export costs that Australian exports had not had a cent in benefits from increased stevedoring efficiency.
- (5) In the period since January 1998 to July 2000, has Lang Corporation's share price risen from \$1.16 to \$9.09.
- (6) During the period referred to in part (5), what benefits have accrued to Australian importers or exporters as the result of drops in the cost of stevedoring.
- (7) Did he meet Lord Sterling, Chairman of P&O, when he was in London for the Centenary of Federation celebrations; if so, did he raise with Lord Sterling the possibility of passing on some of the cost savings of waterfront reform to Australian importers and exporters; if not, why not.

1798 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What information does he have about the closer economic, political and cultural links in the ASEAN plus 3 grouping of countries.
- (2) Is he concerned that this grouping will form an economic and political unit which will have the effect of excluding Australia.
- (3) Does he have a strategy to deal with the growing alienation of Australia from this group of nations.

1799 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What are the reasons behind the several hunger strikes that have recently occurred at refugee detention centres.
- (2) Have any of the complaints highlighted by these hunger strikes been rectified within the detention centre system.
- (3) How many people were involved in these hunger strikes, and how many of these are of (a) Chinese, (b) Arabic, (c) African and (d) other backgrounds.
- (4) Why were the Villawood detainees on hunger strike removed to the Port Hedland Detention Centre.
- (5) Was the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission permitted to interview these detainees to ensure the protection of their rights under Articles 7 and 10 of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights, before they were removed to Port Hedland.
- (6) What is the current status of these refugees.

1800 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Why has he accused genuine refugees who have been granted Temporary Protection Visas of roting the system when he forbids them from having

English classes in order to help their efforts to become employed and therefore financially self-sufficient.

- (2) Does the Temporary Protection Visa bar the reunion of refugees with their spouses and children; if so, why does he believe that a refugee should be forbidden from sending financial assistance to his or her spouse and children.
- (3) Does he have evidence that these refugees are sending monies to people other than their spouse and children; if so, what; if not, will he apologise to the refugees and to the Australian community.

1801 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1652 (*Hansard*, 17 August 2000, page 17653) concerning the \$6810 bond attached to a Bridging E Visa, allowing an individual recognised as a genuine refugee to leave detention, why are the majority of refugee applicants of Chinese background in Villawood Detention Centre being charged amounts between \$30,000-\$50,000.
- (2) Is the determination of a security amount dependent on the country of origin or ethnic background of the refugee applicant; if not, what criteria does his Department use in determining the amount of a bond or security for a Bridging E Visa application to refugees.

1802 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation—

- (1) What major developments have taken place in the field of multicultural arts since the election of the Howard Government in 1996.
- (2) What resources has the Government provided specifically targeted for multicultural arts since its election in 1996.
- (3) What action has he taken to ensure that the Australia Council and other funding bodies give equal access to artists from non English speaking backgrounds.
- (4) What direct funding is being made to ethnic community organisations through his Department to maintain the diversity of cultural traditions within a multicultural Australia.

1803 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) What proportion of the total Aged Care budget for nursing homes and hostels since 1990 on a year-by-year basis has been directed into (a) ethnic-specific nursing homes and hostels and (b) multi-ethnic nursing homes and hostels.
- (2) Since 1990, on a year-by-year basis, what has been the total number of nursing home and hostel beds and of these, how many beds were in (a) ethnic-specific nursing homes and hostels and (b) multi-ethnic homes.

1804 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Has she developed a policy to ensure that all significant ethnic groupings are being offered the possibility of ethnic-specific hostels and nursing homes.
- (2) Does the Government have a target for the total number of facilities and placements in ethnic-specific nursing homes and hostels.

- (3) What proportion of beds in the current round of nursing home and hostel placements is for ethnic-specific beds.
 - (4) What is the breakdown of ethnic-specific placements being offered and to which individual ethnic communities are they being offered.
- 1805 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has the Government undertaken work on the cost of a West Shepparton by-pass or alternative road; if so, what is the nature of the work undertaken and the associated costings of the road work.
- 1806 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 1612 (*Hansard*, 28 August 2000, page 17723) concerning the 1999 Regional Australia Summit, if invitations were not issued to all Senators and Members to attend the Regional Summit Dinner, how can Senators and Members claim payment for travel allowances, airfares, cars and taxi costs under clause 10(g) of Determination 8 of 1998, which relates to payment of travel allowances for attendance at official government, parliamentary or vice-regal functions.
 - (2) Since when has clause 10(g) of Determination 8 of 1998 been extended to the payment of travel allowances for attendance at official government, parliamentary or vice-regal functions when the only Members and Senators invited to such events are Coalition Members and Senators.
- 1807 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report by Alan Kohler in the *Australian Financial Review* of 10 to 12 June 2000 which states that five tea-tree plantations started over the past couple of years will by 2004 dump 1600 tonnes of tea tree oil each year into a global market and last year amounted to 300 tonnes, and as a result the price has collapsed from \$55 a tonne to \$20.
 - (2) Is he able to say whether the statements made in the article are correct; if so, what is the objective of the \$100,000 Government grant which his media release of 28 June 200 says will develop a national strategy to grow the industry.
- 1808 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What is the current share of national road funding received by Victoria.
 - (2) Has Victoria's share changed over recent years; if so, by what sums has it changed.
 - (3) How long does the existing agreement for the division of national road funding last.
 - (4) What is the process by which roads are declared Roads of National Importance.
 - (5) On how many occasions during the period 1993-1999 did the Victorian Government seek to secure with the Federal Government an agreement over any Roads of National Importance.
 - (6) What was the first occasion in which the Victorian Government requested the Federal Government to agree to declaring the Scoresby Freeway a Road of National Importance.

(7) Has the Federal Government refused to fund the Scoresby Freeway project.

1809 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Government instructed the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to review existing excise arrangements for petroleum products that may be used as a substitute in fuel.
- (2) Does this review involve a review of the current testing practices.
- (3) Is the Government considering directing the ATO to recommence the spot testing for fuel substitution that was curtailed when the excise function was transferred to the ATO from Customs.
- (4) What petrol stations have been found to be adding methanol to petrol.
- (5) Does the Government agree with the calls by the Australian Automobile Association and the Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce for the establishment of national standards for fuel and regular random fuel testing to prevent excise loss and possible damage to automobiles.
- (6) Does the Excise Amendment (Compliance Improvement) Bill 2000 contain proposals to allow the searching of conveyances without warrant to search for tobacco leaf; if so, will the (a) same provisions apply to petroleum products and (b) ATO be directed to apply a similar measure to all excisable products; if not why not.

1810 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—
What arrangements does the Australian Taxation Office have in place to ensure that the same problems do not arise in relation to Australian Business Numbers as have occurred with Tax File Numbers, in light of the Auditor-General's report that lax administration led to there being 3.6 million more tax file numbers than tax-payers.

1811 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—
Have all judges been sent their Superannuation Surcharge Notice and have all judges met all their superannuation surcharge liabilities.

1812 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) How many inspections of nursing homes have been carried out by the Government or its agencies on nursing homes in the electoral divisions of (a) Deakin, (b) Chisholm, (c) La Trobe, (d) McEwen and (e) Aston since 1 January 1999.
- (2) What are the details of inspections in each case.

1813 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) On 30 June 2000 was a message sent to military personnel at the Bulimba barracks in Brisbane saying that (a) due to recent events involving consultations and negotiations, no dialogue was to occur between unit representatives and state or federal union officials, (b) that any inquiries posed by state or federal union officials should be directed to either the Industrial Relations Officer or the Commanding Officer and (c) the request was not intended to gag consultation between management and the union movement but to ensure "we all sing from the same sheet of music".
- (2) In his answer to question No. 1104 (*Hansard*, 16 February 2000, page 13719), did he say that enterprise agreement negotiations were matters

between the contractors and the union and not the Defence Department and the union; if so, why does Defence maintain a process of negotiation with unions given that Drake Personnel is the employer and not the Department of Defence.

- (3) What strategy or approach is involved with the desire to ensure “we all sing from the same sheet of music”.
- (4) What role does Defence play in the negotiations concerning conditions for contractors’ employees.

1814 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are contractors and their employees permitted to obtain meals from the Army personnel canteen at the Bulimba base in Brisbane.
- (2) Were the costs for these meals previously the same to all permitted to purchase there.
- (3) Who made the recent decision that meals charged to Army personnel and public servants at the Bulimba base in Brisbane would cost \$3.40, while those charged to other workers at the base would cost \$7.40.
- (4) When and why was the decision made.
- (5) Is it a nationwide decision or peculiar to the Bulimba base.
- (6) How are the prices determined.

1815 **MR HOLLIS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—What are the (a) names, (b) qualifications, (c) nominating states and (d) terms of the present members of the (i) Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination established under the 1965 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, (ii) Human Rights Committee established under the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, (iii) Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights established under the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, (iv) Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women established under the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, (v) Committee against Torture established under the 1984 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, (vi) Committee on the Rights of the Child established under the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and (vii) International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission established under the 1977 Protocol I Additional to the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

1816 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What are the methods available to detect cervical cancer.
- (2) Is there a method available which is 100% accurate in detecting cervical cancer; if so, what is the method; if not, what is the most accurate method for detecting cervical cancer and what percentage accuracy does that method have.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to a pamphlet distributed by the Pap Smear Register which says pap smears are no longer the most effective method of detecting cervical cancer.

- (4) Has his attention been drawn to an adjunctive test known as ThinPrep Pap Test.
- (5) Is ThinPrep Pap Test listed on the Medicare Benefits Schedule; if not, why not.

1817 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the answers to questions No. 1654 (*Hansard*, 28 August 2000, page 17724) and No. 1153 (*Hansard*, 8 June 2000, page 16339), is the information concerning former Senator Colston a matter relating to law enforcement pursuant to subsection 488(1)(e) of the Migration Act with respect to charges alleging misappropriation of Commonwealth revenue, namely travel rorts.

16 August 2000

1818 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 510 (*Hansard*, 12 May 1999, page 5318) concerning rescue operations during the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race, what was the final cost to his Department for employing civil search and rescue resources in assisting rescue operations.
- (2) Was any of the cost recoverable from the organisers of the race, the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia; if not, why not.

1819 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Sydney 2000 Games—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 681 (*Hansard*, 1 September 1999, page 9723), have the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Austrade finalised criteria for the distribution of tickets available to the Government for use at the Sydney Olympic Games; if so, what are the criteria.
- (2) Has the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet received a license agreement for the SuperDome box as yet and what is the basis of the agreement.
- (3) In addition to the \$850 000 for the cost of tickets to the Olympics for use by Government, the \$240 000 for use of a 20-seat box at Stadium Australia, and the \$120 000 for an 18-seat box at the Super Dome, what is the estimate and breakdown of other costs to be incurred by the Prime Minister and other Ministers when entertaining guests during the Olympic Games.

1820 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Are civil marriage celebrants continuing to be appointed without any formal requirements for professional accreditation.
- (2) What steps is he taking to promote among existing celebrants and new celebrants existing courses on civil celebrancy offered by Monash University and the Australian College of Civil Celebrancy.
- (3) What barriers exist to recognising the Australian College of Celebrancy and Monash University courses on civil celebrancy as approved providers of training to civil celebrants and prospective civil celebrants.

(4) When will he introduce legislation to give legal effect to the draft code of practice he issued in December 1999.

1821 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

(1) What safeguards are in place to ensure that personal information sourced from the Electoral Roll maintained by the Australian Electoral Commission is not used by private sector organisations for commercial purposes.

(2) Have there been any cases in which any person has been prosecuted under section 91B of the Commonwealth Electoral Act, which provides that a person shall not use protected information for a commercial purpose; if so, what were the outcomes of those prosecutions.

MR TANNER: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1822 - 1839)—
In 1999-2000 in the Minister's Department, what was the (a) average salary paid in each Australian Public Service salary band and (b) average staffing level (average number of employees) for each band.

1822 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1823 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1824 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Treasurer.

1825 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1826 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1827 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1828 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.

1829 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1830 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1831 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence.

1832 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.

1833 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1834 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.

1835 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources.

1836 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1837 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

1838 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1839 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

1840 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer—

(1) Did the Government promise that health would be essentially GST free.

(2) Has an added administrative burden been placed on general practitioners and other health care professionals; if so, does this extra administrative

burden result in health professionals paying the Government GST and then claiming it back and actually delivering zero revenue to the Treasury.

- (3) Did the Government promise to make small business operations easier; if so, will it heed the Australian Medical Association's repeated calls to make the GST compliance administration simpler for health care professionals; if not, why not.

1841 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he able to say what are the implications of the House of Lords' decision in relation to the former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet, with respect to the international pursuit of those who have indulged in political murder, torture and gross violation of human rights.
- (2) Is he able to say whether a precedent has been set which can be applied to other leaders who abuse their powers in the way Mr Pinochet is alleged to have done.
- (3) Is he also able to say whether Governments and human rights organisations around the world will be able to pursue leaders who abuse their power in the future.
- (4) What are the implications of the decision for alleged war criminals other than those in leadership positions such as Mr Konrad Kalejs.

17 August 2000

1842 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1607 (*Hansard*, 14 August 2000, page 17332), has his attention been drawn to the technical and vocational education available at Don Bosco Technical School at Fatumaca and other Salesian schools in East Timor.
- (2) Will he obtain this information for (a) the Australian National Training Authority Ministerial Council and (b) the South Pacific Forum when they consider membership of the 1989 Unesco Convention on Technical and Vocational Education.

1843 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Since the introduction of the Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) category how many illegal immigrants have arrived by (a) air and (b) sea.
- (2) How many of these persons have been deported.
- (3) How many are undergoing refugee determination.
- (4) How many asylum seekers have been granted TPVs since the establishment of the category.
- (5) From which countries do these TPV holders come.
- (6) How long have they been held in detention since the positive determination of their refugee status.
- (7) From which detention centres have they come.
- (8) How many TPV holders have relocated to each of capital cities as at August 2000.

- (9) What basic relocation payments and services have been provided to TPV holders upon their release.
 - (10) Has his Department received any correspondence from either State Governments or community/charity/ethnic organisations objecting to the lack of Commonwealth support services for released TPV holders.
- 1844 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Is Environment Australia devising a new definition of fuel.
 - (2) What are the uses of such a definition.
 - (3) Will a new definition aid with the detection of contaminated fuel.
- 1845 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—
- (1) Did he attend the Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs meeting on 21 July 2000
 - (2) Was the 10-point plan on fuel sponsored by New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria discussed at the meeting.
 - (3) What was the outcome of the discussion on the plan.
 - (4) Did the Commonwealth vote in favour of the plan.
 - (5) What is his position on point three of the plan regarding fuel substitution.
- 1846 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
What sum has been allocated to (a) public and (b) private schools in the electoral division of Fowler by the Commonwealth Government in (i) 1996-97, (ii) 1997-98, (iii) 1998-99, (iv) 1999-2000 and (v) 2000-2001.
- 1848 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) In the period January 1998 to August 2000 how many staff of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) were offered redundancy.
 - (2) What criteria were applied and what reasons did staff give in accepting redundancy.
 - (3) How many DPP staff were employed in the same period.
 - (4) What are the details of staff recruitment campaigns for the DPP in that period.
 - (5) Were staff made redundant at the same time as the DPP was recruiting new staff; if so, why.
- 1849 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) representing a Mrs Haywood and a Mrs Nardi in relation to letters addressed to them dated 27 April 2000 from Ms Christine Trevett, a former staff member of Mr Cameron Thompson MP.
 - (2) Is it the case that both Mrs Haywood and Mrs Nardi are not employed by Mr Thompson in his capacity as a Member of Parliament.
 - (3) Are there any restrictions on the classes of clients which the AGS may represent; if so, what are those restrictions.
 - (4) On what basis is the AGS representing Mrs Haywood and Mrs Nardi.

- (5) Who is paying the costs of the AGS in respect of Mrs Haywood and Mrs Nardi.
- (6) What is the sum of those legal costs to August 2000.

1850 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a special report in the *South China Morning Post* in January 2000 claiming that patients from Hong Kong had obtained liver transplants at San Yatsen Hospital in Guangzhou in June of 1999.
- (2) Has the Government's Human Rights Dialogue with China raised this with its Chinese counterparts or has it independently verified the report of the doctor quoted in the *South China Morning Post* article who worked at the Guangzhou Hospital.
- (3) Can the Government confirm that the transplant team openly admitted that the livers came from executed prisoners in the Peoples' Republic of China where consent was not an issue.
- (4) Has he or the Chinese Human Rights Dialogue team established with the doctors at Guangzhou that five individuals from Hong Kong travelled to the San Yatsen Hospital to receive liver transplants at a cost of HK\$300 000 or AUD\$66 000 .
- (5) Can he confirm that San Yatsen hospital has performed transplant operations for more than 40 patients from the mainland and several other Asian nations, and is regarded as the main transplant centre in Guangzhou.
- (6) Can he confirm the existence of an official document released by the Chinese Supreme Court, Supreme People's Procuratorate, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Civil Affairs, entitled "Provisional Regulation on the Use of Dead bodies or organs from Condemned Criminals" that officially provides reason for this attitude of the Peoples' Republic of China to the use of transplants from executed criminals.
- (7) Has the China Human Rights Dialogue verified and or questioned these violations of human rights in the Peoples' Republic of China; if not, why not.

1851 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is he able to say whether India has acquired Russian SU-27 aircraft; if so, when.
- (2) How many aircraft have been purchased by the Indian Government.
- (3) Has India announced plans to purchase the Russian built SU 30; if so, how many and when.
- (4) What are the merits of these two aircraft vis a vis Australia's F-18s.
- (5) Has India announced that it will be purchasing an aircraft carrier in addition to its existing carrier *Viraat*.
- (6) Has India announced that it will stage naval exercises in the South China Sea in October and November 2000; if so, (a) what ships will be deployed, (b) what is the reason for the exercises and (c) has the Australian government indicated an attitude to these exercises.

- (7) Did the Prime Minister raise any of these matters during his recent state visit to India.

1852 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is it a fact that for motor vehicle leases signed before 2 December 1998 and which span 1 July 2000, the GST does not apply to periodic lease payments but does apply to the residual value of a motor vehicle purchased by a lessee at the end of a lease agreement, however, for motor vehicle leases signed after 2 December 1998 and which span 1 July 2000, the GST applies to both periodic lease payments and the residual value of a vehicle purchased by a lessee at the end of a lease agreement; if so, why does the GST apply differently in each case.
- (2) Do monthly payments and residual values of motor vehicles arising from lease arrangements entered into prior to 1 July 2000 include a wholesale sales tax component; if not, why not; if so, (a) why is GST being applied to such leases on top of wholesale sales tax, (b) what is the Government's response to claims that such treatment amounts to double taxation and (c) what sum does the Government estimate will be collected from GST paid on (i) motor vehicle leases and (ii) vehicles purchased for a residual value arising from leases spanning 1 July 2000.
- (3) Will the Government remove the GST from periodic payments and the residual purchase prices of motor vehicles arising from transitional leases; if not, why not.

1853 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many family law court matters are (a) waiting to be listed for pre hearing conferences, (b) listed for pre hearing conferences and (c) listed for trial in (i) northern and (ii) southern Tasmania.
- (2) When will the appointment of a Federal Magistrate in Launceston be made.
- (3) What proportion of the Launceston magistracy program will be exclusively allocated to family law matters.

1854 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Further to his answer to a question without notice (*Hansard*, 14 August 2000, page 17266) concerning employer nominations for skilled migration, how many permanent visa applications did his Department receive for employer-nominated and skilled migration in 1999-2000 and how does this compare with years since 1995-1996.
- (2) What proportion of applications for 1999-2000 were (a) accepted and (b) rejected by his Department.
- (3) What were the grounds for rejection of employer-nominated permanent migration applications and other permanent visa applications in 1999-2000.
- (4) What is the global regional breakdown of permanent visa applications received by his Department and what proportions, by region, were (a) accepted and (b) rejected in 1999-2000.

1855 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Further to his answer to a question without notice (*Hansard*, 14 August 2000, page 17266) in which he stated that the demand for temporary entry visas was up by 8% in 1999-2000, what proportion of temporary visa applications were (a) accepted and (b) rejected by his Department in 1999-2000 and what were the major reasons for the rejections.
- (2) Is a reason for the increased demand for temporary visas the fact that many employers have had numerous applications for permanent migration rejected by his Department and have therefore been discouraged from having any success in the permanent visa application program.
- (3) Will his Department work to ensure that the permanent visa program in the skilled category is developed to be responsive, flexible and quick.
- (4) Is the temporary entry program being promoted because the permanent immigration program is not being increased to meet the real needs of Australian industry.

1856 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many separate retention bonuses are currently payable to serving members of the Australian Defence Force.
- (2) In respect of each such bonus (a) what are the eligibility criteria, (b) what duration of additional service is required for payment, (c) what is the amount of the bonus, (d) what penalties apply if the additional service is not performed, (d) how many personnel received the bonus in the last year for which data is available and (e) what is the estimated cost of the provision in 2000-01.
- (3) Since March 1996 has the Government withdrawn any existing retention bonus; if so, what was the reason for the withdrawal and the date that it took effect.
- (4) Since March 1996 has the Government created any additional bonuses; if so, what was the reason for doing so and the date that it took effect.
- (5) Has Defence conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of any of the retention bonuses referred to in part (1); if so, when was the evaluation completed and what were the conclusions and recommendations.

1857 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many former HMAS *Melbourne* personnel have initiated legal action against the Commonwealth in relation to the Voyager disaster.
- (2) How many of these personnel have so far obtained an extension of time to sue from the courts.
- (3) How many cases in total have been finalised by a court judgement in favour of the (a) plaintiff and (b) Commonwealth.
- (4) How many cases in total have been settled out of court.
- (5) What is the total sum of compensation that has been paid by the Commonwealth to date in respect of (a) the court judgements in favour of the plaintiff referred to in part 3(a) and (b) the out of court settlements referred to in part (4).

- (6) What have been the Commonwealth's total legal costs to date for cases that have not yet been finalised.
 - (7) What have been the Commonwealth's total legal costs to date for cases that have been (a) finalised by a court judgement in terms of part (3) and (b) settled out of court in terms of part (4).
- 1858 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many former HMAS *Melbourne* personnel have initiated legal action against the Commonwealth in relation to the *Voyager* disaster.
 - (2) How many of these personnel have so far obtained an extension of time to sue from the courts.
 - (3) How many cases in total have been finalised by a court judgement in favour of the (a) plaintiff and (b) Commonwealth.
 - (4) How many cases in total have been settled out of court.
 - (5) What is the total sum of compensation that has been paid by the Commonwealth to date in respect of (a) the court judgements in favour of the plaintiff referred to in part 3(a) and (b) the out of court settlements referred to in part (4).
 - (6) What have been the Commonwealth's total legal costs to date for cases that have not yet been finalised.
- (7) What have been the Commonwealth's total legal costs to date for cases that have been (a) finalised by a court judgement in terms of part (3) and (b) settled out of court in terms of part (4).
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 931 (*Hansard*, 18 October 1999, page 11816), for each Defence base or facility that has more than 100 units of living-in accommodation (LIA) classified as being level 1 or level 2, what is (a) the name of the base, (b) the electorate in which it is located and (c) the number of level 1 and 2 LIA units located on the base.
 - (2) Does the Defence capital works program include LIA refurbishment projects for any of the bases referred to in part (1); if so, for each such base what is the (a) number of LIA units approved for refurbishment, (b) total approved cost of the refurbishment and (c) estimated expenditure in 2000-01.
 - (3) Has the Government now withdrawn the reduction in LIA charges that took effect on 8 July 1999; if so, (a) on what date did this occur and (b) what saving does this entail for the Defence Budget in 2000-01 and subsequent years.
 - (4) Has the Government introduced a system of Optional Rent Assistance (ORA) for single personnel in LIA level 1 and 2 type accommodation choosing to live off base; if so, how do the ORA provisions differ from Defence's general system of rent assistance.
 - (5) How many personnel are predicted to access ORA in (a) 2000-01, (b) 2001-02 and (c) 2002-03 and what is the estimated cost in ORA payments in each of these years.
 - (6) What is the precise role of the Defence Housing Authority in administering the new ORA system.

28 August 2000

1859 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article in the *Australian Financial Review* on 8 August 2000 entitled “ATO keeps them posted”.
- (2) Will the Australian Taxation Office and Australia Post no longer accept payment of HECS and income tax bills in person; if so, why has the option of paying tax bills at the tax office been removed.
- (3) Is this removal a breach of the Taxpayers’ Charter.
- (4) Will he refer this matter to the Board of Taxation.

1860 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Between March 1996 and August 2000 how many spot checks were carried out on nursing homes within the electoral division of Prospect.
- (2) How many complaints regarding nursing homes within the electoral division of Prospect were received by the Minister in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999 and (e) 2000.
- (3) Further to the answer to question No. 1636 concerning spot checks to be undertaken by her Department after a nursing home receives accreditation, will spot checks be performed on a yearly, half yearly, quarterly, monthly or random basis.
- (4) How long does a nursing home’s period of accreditation last.

1861 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What was the total sum, on an itemised basis, spent by (a) Airservices Australia, (b) the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and (c) the Australian Maritime Safety Authority on Board expenses including remuneration, travel, accommodation, provision of laptop computers, facsimile machines or other office equipment, reimbursements for other Board member expenses and any hospitality in each year since 1995.1862 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the submission made to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by the Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action, supported by Aboriginal leaders; if so, what is the Government’s response to the claims that it has failed to address problems in Aboriginal health on a nationwide scale.
- (2) Will the Government also reject any criticism from this Committee in light of the Government’s response to criticism from other UN Committees in 2000.
- (3) Is the Government aware of the criticisms which are being levelled at Australia by a range of governments around the world because of its dismissive attitude to any criticism on indigenous issues.

1863 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has the term of Mr John Spender as Special Australian Envoy on the Cyprus issue, been completed; if not, what has Mr Spender achieved to date on this issue; if so, has Mr Spender provided a report to the Government on his achievements during his term as Special Envoy.

- (2) If reports from Mr Spender are available, will he make a statement to Parliament or publicly release the reports.
 - (3) What other information does the Government have from its UN Mission and from other Australian diplomatic posts on the latest developments on the Cyprus Issue.
 - (4) What information does he have as to whether the recent proximity talks in Geneva have achieved any positive outcome.
- 1864 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Is his Department or its contracted agents required by law to provide detainees with information regarding their rights.
 - (2) Has his attention been drawn to claims by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission that detainees' oral and written requests for legal assistance have been ignored.
 - (3) Has his attention been drawn to claims by Amnesty International, given in evidence to a parliamentary inquiry, that a detainee had been denied telephone access to a lawyer.
 - (4) Is it in accordance with Australia's international human rights obligations for detainees to not have access to legal assistance until they specifically ask for it.
- 1865 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to allegations about the use of physical restraint and sedation in the removal of people from Australia.
 - (2) What safeguards are in place to prevent the mistreatment of people being removed from Australia.
 - (3) Is he able to say whether the Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee recommended in its report *A Sanctuary Under Review* that appropriate protocols be developed between carriers and contract removal service providers and that these protocols, and the implementation of them, should be subject to audit by an external and independent body (Recommendation 10.3); if so, should similar standards be applied to the provision of detention services.
 - (4) What safeguards exist against possible abuses and what control does his Department retain when services such as these are outsourced.
- 1866 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Is ministerial discretion an adequate mechanism in meeting Australia's fundamental commitments to refugees who may have failed in their applications for refugee status before the Tribunal, in cases where there is evidence that these people may be subjected to persecution in their home country.
 - (2) Has his attention been drawn to criticisms from the Refugee and Immigration Legal Centre citing serious concerns about a lack of transparency and accountability in the operation of ministerial discretion; if so, how does he respond to these criticisms.
 - (3) Does he have enormous latitude in ministerial discretion matters; if so, what processes are in place to ensure that ministerial discretion operates in an effective and equitable manner.

1867 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Does the Minister believe that that the operation of ministerial discretion satisfies Australia's international obligations under conventions such as the Convention against Torture (CAT), the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), as well as the Refugee Convention.
- (2) Has his attention been drawn to claims by Amnesty International that without incorporation into domestic law, people seeking protection under conventions such as the CAT and the ICCPR would have no recourse to enforceable rights or obligations.
- (3) Will the Government move to incorporate the provisions of such international conventions into Australian domestic law; if not, why not.
- (4) Is he able to say whether the Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee recommended in its report *A Sanctuary Under Review* that in the future "appropriately trained DIMA staff consider all s417 requests and referrals against CROC, ICCPR and CAT"; if so, why has this not been standard procedure in the past.

1868 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Did he release a Press Statement on 10 August 2000 stating that Australia has returned 22 people to China less than one month after they landed illegally in Cairns; if so, considering Australia's international commitments to the UN International Convention on Civil and Political Rights to protect those escaping oppressive foreign regimes, what was the basis of his statement that these 22 people had no claim to remain in Australia.
- (2) Did these 22 people claim refugee status under Australia's international humanitarian guidelines; if not, what was their reason for escaping China and risking the dangerous boat journey to Australia.
- (3) If these people did seek refugee status, were these requests processed through the proper Departmental channels for asylum seekers.
- (4) If these people were processed and rejected within one month of their arrival, why does it take up to two years to process the claims of those asylum seekers held in the various detention centres around Australia.

1869 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to claims made on ABC news on 21 August 2000 that the Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programs Unit has been forced to close its doors because of a funding shortage; if so, to what extent is the Federal Government responsible for the closure.
- (2) What evidence does the Government have that it is providing sufficient support to groups such as these, whose aim is to improve living conditions of Aboriginal people in Australia.

29 August 2000

1870 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report on ABC Radio at 8.15 am on Friday 11 August 2000 that Pakistan successfully tested an intermediate range ballistic missile; if so, what are the regional implications of Pakistan's acquisition of offensive missile systems.
- (2) Is he able to say whether this offensive missile technology was provided by the People's Republic of China; if so, has the Australian Government raised the issue of the provision of this technology with the People's Republic of China.

1871 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he able to confirm the accuracy of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) report on 31 July regarding his visit to Iran which quoted him as saying "Despite all of these rumours I closely witnessed the trend of democracy in the Islamic Republic of Iran which impressed me very much".
- (2) Is he also able to confirm the successful test in Iran of the Shahab 3 missile on 15-16 July 2000 which allegedly has a range of 1300 miles and can carry an 800kg warhead; if so, is he able to say whether the technology for this missile was provided by either China or North Korea.
- (3) Whilst in Iran did he raise the danger Tehran's acquisition of an offensive missile capacity represents to regional peace.

1872 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Were a Mr and Mrs Berisha included in the 15 Kosovars who were deported from Port Hedland Detention Centre on 22 August 2000; if so, (a) does Mr Berisha suffer from emphysema, (b) was Mrs Berisha taking medication following the removal of a brain tumour and (c) did either have immediate family or a home to return to in Kosovo.
- (2) Did any of the 15 Kosovars have trauma assessments prior to their forced deportation from Port Hedland.
- (3) Did the Australian Kosovar Support Network meet with Senator Kay Patterson as his representative; if so, did she agree to pass on the Network's requests that the Kosovars receive trauma assessments; if not, why not.
- (4) If Senator Patterson's request for trauma assessments was being processed, why were the Kosovars deported before this process was concluded.

1873 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) How many workers in each State and Territory who have lost their employee entitlements through company insolvency have received financial payments contributed from the Regional Assistance Program and the Employee Entitlements Support Scheme with the result that the employees received 100 per cent of their legally accrued entitlements.
- (2) What are the names of the companies concerned.

1874 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Prime Minister—Has his office demanded that totally disabled ex-servicemen and women who are fighting for an increase in their rate of pension no longer email his office; if so, (a) why, (b) has his office suggested

an alternative means of contact for these ex-servicemen and women to use in order to bring their circumstances to his attention and (c) will he review this demand; if not, why not.

1875 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has he received a letter from Mr Bob Buick MM regarding the unfair treatment Australian veterans are receiving from the Government over approvals to wear Vietnamese Awards granted following the battle of Long Tan.
- (2) Will he ensure that this matter is reviewed and will he give personal attention to that review; if not, why not.

1876 **MR SAWFORD:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are Australia's Collins Class Submarines performing extremely well in international naval exercises.
- (2) Has his Department and the Royal Australian Navy been silent about the success of the Collins Class Submarines in these exercises because they are seeking additional funds to fix problems with these submarines.
- (3) Has the combat system been a major failing of the Submarine Construction Project.
- (4) Were the specifications for the combat system developed by his Department and the supplier of the system also selected by his Department.
- (5) Has his Department refused to allow the Australian Submarine Corporation to place the American supplier of the system into default of contract as far back as 1993.
- (6) Has his Department, rather than the Australian Submarine Corporation, accepted blame for this deficiency, if not, why not.

1877 **MR SAWFORD:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is he aware of public comments by Australian Submarine Corporation (ASC) management that if further work contracts, either for refits or ongoing maintenance, do not eventuate the ASC will retrench a significant number of its highly skilled and committed workforce.
- (2) Can he advise what steps he has taken to ensure that the strategic asset which the workforce of the ASC represents is secured.

MR K. J. THOMSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1878 - 1880)—

- (1) Has the Minister received advice from the Treasury or the Australian Taxation Office since March 1996 on the risk to revenue from employee benefit tax avoidance schemes.
- (2) If so, (a) when was each piece of advice received, (b) what course of action was recommended in each case and (c) what action did the Government take in response to each of these recommendations.

1878 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer.

1879 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1880 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer.

1881 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to any businesses that have not paid employees the tax cut that they were meant to receive after 1 July 2000.
- (2) If so, (a) how many businesses are you aware of in this situation and what do you believe the total loss to employees may be, (b) what opportunities do employees have to pursue unpaid tax cuts, (c) what action is the Government taking to pursue unpaid tax cuts on behalf of workers.

1882 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Of the 137 registered software products on the registered software facility, (a) are all of these products 'GST ready' (b) what testing procedures or standards must they meet and (c) who assesses the products.
- (2) If approved products are used and result in incorrect business activity statements due to software error, will the users, the ATO, or the producers be liable for any fines or penalties associated with lodging incorrect returns.

1883 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Why have up to 80 detainees at Woomera Detention Centre, many of whom are victims of extreme levels of persecution in their homelands, become distressed enough to violently protest and cause severe damage to the complex.
- (2) What is the average length of time these protesting refugees have spent in mandatory detention.
- (3) In light of these protests, and the public demonstrations that occurred in detention centres all over the country, does he recognise a growing movement of public disenchantment with the Government's policies of mandatory detention.

1884 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to significant public demonstrations at the Villawood and Maribyrnong Detention Centres on 26 August 2000.
- (2) Is there a gap between Government policy and public sentiment on mandatory detention, especially in the light of approximately 2000 public protestors at these rallies.
- (3) Will he reconsider the Government's policy of detaining all refugee migrants who do not have the opportunity to apply for a visa before entering Australia.
- (4) Will he respond to the public criticism of the mandatory detention policy from organisations including the United Nations, the National Council of Churches, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, Amnesty International and the Refugee Council of Australia.

1885 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Has he consulted with welfare organisations, including the Australian Greek Welfare Society and Co.As.It, which are facing funding cuts up to \$100,000.
- (2) Has his attention been drawn to growing public sentiment including that exemplified in *The Age* editorial that older migrants should be allowed to enjoy a

small slice of the prosperity they helped create and that the Government should review this decision.

- (3) What are the implications of the funding cuts he authorised to various welfare communities around Australia to the coherence of our multicultural society.
- (4) What is the justification of these cuts to essential services for people who require welfare assistance to survive within their community.
- (5) Is he concerned at the furore created by these unjustified cuts, as exemplified in the headlines of ethnic newspapers such as *Neos Kosmos* and *Il Globo*.

30 August 2000

1886 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has the Australian Government's attention been drawn to (a) gender discriminatory provisions of Iraqi family law and of the civil code still operative in Iraqi Kurdistan, (b) the forced closure of the Independent Women's Organisation Office and Shelter in Suleimania on 21 October, (c) the murder of an estimated 500 women in the area controlled by the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, due to concepts of honour killing on behalf of family and males and (d) the murder of Nasrin Aziz Rashid by male relatives after she was deprived of the Shelter's support; if not, will his Department investigate these matters.
- (2) What measures does Australia undertake to ensure that a degree of UN assistance is conveyed to non-government organisations in Iraqi Kurdistan, particularly those facilitating women's rights.
- (3) Will Australia intervene to seek assurances as to the protection of Kazhal Kider, Surma Rasool Mina, Layla Ismail, Niyan Ali Ahmad, Asmer Abdulla, Shoghan Salih, Bayan, Chimman, Zamman, Badria Rasool, Basos Abdulla and their children as attested, since they are now deprived of the Shelter's valued protection.

1887 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—

- (1) Is he aware of community concerns about a perceived lack of transparency in retail petrol prices in regional Australia, particularly with regard to the passing on of price changes relating to the fluctuations in the world parity price of crude oil.
- (2) Is it the case that when the cost of a barrel of oil rises or the Australian dollar drops in value the pump price of fuel rises almost immediately, but when the cost of crude oil falls, or the Australian dollar rises, the reduced cost is not passed on to consumers within the same timeframe.
- (3) What powers does the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission have to ensure that price cuts are passed on to consumers as quickly as price rises.
- (4) Does the Government consider that level of regulation adequate; if so, why.
- (5) Given that petrol regularly sells for 10 cents a litre less in the Blue Mountains than it does in Bathurst, will the Government support an inquiry focusing only on the reasons for and solutions to the city-country petrol price differential; if not, why not.

1888 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Given the Government's stated desire to provide a faster, more efficient and cheaper family law service to litigants, why was it considered preferable to create a completely new court, the Federal Magistrates Service, rather than expand the role of local courts in each State by appointing specialist magistrates and increasing delegated powers.
- (2) Did the Government consider this option; if not, why not.
- (3) Will the Government continue diverting funds from the Family Court of Australia to the Federal Magistrates Service, even if this jeopardises the existence of Family Court sub-registries in regional areas.
- (4) Will the Government ensure that where Family Court sub-registries are closed in regional areas, those communities will not be left without a service; if so, how will this be achieved.
- (5) What guarantees can the Government give that there will be no reduction in family law services available to people in regional Australia during the transition of service provision responsibilities from the Family Court to the Federal Magistrates Service.
- (6) Is it the Government's intention to abolish the Family Court of Australia, eventually shifting all family law responsibilities to the Federal Magistrates Service; if so, what is the proposed time frame; if not, what are the Government's long terms plans for the Court.
- (7) Is the Government aware that funding cuts to the Family Court have already led to substantial reductions in counselling and mediation services available in some regional areas; if not, what is the Government's assessment of the current availability of Primary Dispute Resolution Services in regional areas such as the Central West of NSW.
- (8) Is it the intention of the Government to outsource the Family Court Counselling Service to community agencies; if so, (a) what is the expected time frame for the outsourcing, (b) what are the expected savings to the Government if the Family Court Counselling Service is outsourced and how has this figure been determined, and (c) what will be the criteria for accrediting community agencies to carry out the work previously done by the Family Court Counselling Service.
- (9) If the Counselling Service is outsourced, (a) how will the Government ensure the services it currently provides are maintained and (b) is it the Government's intention to ensure that 'the best interests of the child principle' remains a priority for community agencies following outsourcing; if so, how will this commitment be achieved.

1889 **MS J. S. MCFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Are self-funded retirees required to complete Form 3086FLY-5.2000 from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to be eligible to claim their Self-Funded Retirees Supplementary Bonus.
- (2) Have the forms been printed; if so, how many have been printed.
- (3) What is the cost to the Commonwealth for printing the forms.
- (4) Are the forms available to the public; if not, why not.

- (5) How many picking slips were sent from the ATO Forms Distribution Centre to members of the public who have been unable to procure the form.
- (6) What was the postage cost of sending the picking slips.
- (7) Does the ATO keep a record of the length of time taken from ordering forms to dispatch from the ATO Distribution Centre; if not, why not.
- (8) What is the (a) average and (b) longest waiting time for a member of the public to receive Form 3086FLY-5.2000 from the Distribution Centre.

1890 **MR SAWFORD:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Will he amend the levy arrangement for each stevedore's liability so that the levy payment will terminate upon repayment of the amount received from MIFCo funding, plus accrued interest and related costs.
- (2) If not, will he implement an alternative remedy for Sea-Land in South Australia so that levy payments made by Sea-Land that exceed the aggregate of MIFCo funding received by Sea-Land plus accrued interest and administrative costs are rebated by the Commonwealth Government to South Australia for the specific purpose of re-investment in new technology and equipment to improve the productivity of the Adelaide Container Terminal; if not, why not.

1891 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What plans are held for the Northam Army Barracks, WA.
- (2) Will the Barracks be sold; if so, (a) how will the sale proceed and (b) will the Barracks be offered for private sale to local tourist interests or to a particular local authority.
- (3) What is the (a) total area and (b) estimated value of the land involved.

1892 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) Further to the answer to part (3) of question No. 1665 (*Hansard*, 28 August 2000, page 17725) concerning vehicle import schemes, (a) has the number of eligible Japanese models decreased from 122 to 20 under the new Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicle Scheme (SEVS), (b) will the increase in the annual cap for passenger motor vehicles from 25 to 100 to enhance the viability of small operators conflict with the decrease in eligible Japanese models, (c) what is the expected impact of the new registered workshop regime on small business and employment, (d) has he produced a working model which demonstrates the viability of the registered workshop regime and (e) what is the justification for the statement that the Government believes that affected businesses will have ample opportunity to adjust to the new SEVS arrangements.
- (2) Further to the answer to part (4) of question No. 1665, (a) did Low Volume (LV) imports peak at approximately 15 000 vehicles per year in 1999-2000, (b) did Full Volume (FV) imports experience record sales in 1999-2000 and (c) given that LV imports have peaked whilst FV imports continue to rise, do the SEVS regulations place an anti-competitive restriction on LV imports.

- (3) Further to the answer to part (6) of question No. 1665, why have further restrictions been imposed on the LV industry when market forces are controlling the current volumes at approximately 15 000 units per annum.
 - (4) Further to the answer to part (8) of question No. 1665, why is a subsidy being provided to the Automotive Competitiveness and Investment Scheme, whilst the Government is effectively closing down the LV industry.
 - (5) Further to the answer to part (9) of question No. 1665, which of the Diesel 4WDs are eligible 4WDs.
 - (6) Further to the answer to part (13) of question No. 1665, has the Office of Regulation Review given its approval that the Regulatory Impact Statement was conducted in accordance with the prescribed guidelines in demonstrating transparency to all stakeholders..
 - (7) Further to the answer to part (14) of question No. 1665, has the level of imports now stabilised at approximately 15 000 units per annum.
 - (8) Is the LV volume of 14 437 vehicles in 1999 large enough to have an impact on the mainstream motor trade.
 - (9) What quantity and quality of LV imports would need to be met in order for there to be a demonstrable impact on the Government's and the Motor Vehicle Standards Act's environmental and safety objectives.
- 1893 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What proportion of the Government's Fuel Grant Scheme was paid to (a) BP, (b) Shell, (c) Caltex and (d) Mobil in July 2000.
 - (2) What was the total sum of revenue raised from petrol excise and taxation during (a) June and (b) July 2000.
- 1894 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—What sum was allocated for small business research in the 2000-2001 Budget.

31 August 2000

- 1895 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1224 (*Hansard*, 9 May 2000, page 15325) has the Minister written to the Tasmanian Government unilaterally proposing changes to the agreed funding provisions of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (RFA); if so, did any process of review and consultation with key stakeholders precede this letter.
 - (2) What reduction in funding has the Minister proposed for funding to Tasmania for (a) the program to protect conservation values on private land in support of the CAR reserve system, (b) the implementation of new intensive forest management initiatives, (c) the implementation of employment and industry development measures, (d) road infrastructure, (e) tourism infrastructure and (f) new reserve management.
 - (3) What has been the response of the Tasmanian Government to the Minister's reported proposal.
- 1896 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—How many personnel who first enlisted in the Australian Defence

Force (ADF) prior to May 1985 are estimated to have re-enlisted in the ADF since August 1991.

1897 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Prior to the commencement of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Enterprise Productivity Arrangement 1999-2002, (a) how many Service personnel were in receipt of the Isolated Establishment Allowance, (b) what was the annual cost of the Allowance and (c) which specific Defence bases were designated as an isolated establishment for the purposes of the Allowance.
- (2) Has the Government decided to abolish the Isolated Establishment Allowance; if so, (a) what is the reason for doing so, (b) is the abolition of the Allowance subject to phasing in provisions and (c) what are the details.
- (3) Has the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal expressed concern that the abolition of the Allowance will have a detrimental effect on the serving members concerned and involve a significant adverse impact on take-home pay in some areas.
- (4) Has the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal also questioned whether the Enterprise Productivity Arrangement 'no disadvantage test' can be said to have been met because of the abolition of the Isolated Establishment Allowance.

1898 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—Further to his announcement of 24 August 2000, what funding has been allocated in (a) 2000-01, (b) 2001-02, (c) 2002-03 and (d) 2003-04 for (i) subsidies to employers of reservists and self-employed reservists, (ii) accreditation of reserve training, (iii) reserve survey, (iv) reserve swipe card technology and (v) communications and public awareness strategies.

1899 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Under what circumstances can the Australian Defence Force (ADF) agree to assume the HECS obligations of serving members who are undergoing University study.
- (2) For the latest year for which data is available, how many service men and women were undertaking University study for which the ADF had agreed to meet their HECS obligations.

1900 **MR McLEAY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—Does his Department keep a central record of all property utilised by Ministers, Members and Senators.

1901 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—

- (1) Will he bring up to date the information that he provided in the answer to Question No. 48 (*Hansard*, 1 March 1999, page 3700).
- (2) When did he receive the text of the recommendations of the British House of Commons Culture, Media and Sport Committee relating to the care and safe-keeping of indigenous remains and to the handling of requests for their return.

- (3) What communications have he and his Department had with their British counterparts on this issue.
- 1902 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—What support is the Federal Government giving to the Cape York partnerships project initiated by Mr Noel Pearson and supported by the Queensland Government.
- 1903 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many retired grandparents in Australia have full-time custody and care of their grandchildren.
 - (2) Does the Government recognise the special financial burden and lifestyle issues faced by grandparents in these circumstances; if so, what support does the Government provide through the social welfare system.
- 1904 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Further to my question No. 790 (*Hansard*, 12 October 1999, page 11407) how many persons received the Disability Support Pension (DSP) in 1999-2000.
 - (2) What was the total cost of the DSP in 1999-2000.
 - (3) How many DSP recipients have declared in ABS employment surveys that they are seeking work.
- 1905 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Has the Government given in-principle support to the recommendations of the McClure Report on Participation Support for a More Equitable Society; if so, does this include the recommendation that the concept of mutual obligation be extended to the social responsibilities of corporate Australia and how will this be implemented.
- 1906 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What programs based on the principle of pooled Federal and State health funding is the Government trialing and what health services are involved.
 - (2) In each case, how is the day-to-day administration of the funding pool being managed.
- 1907 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to my question No. 818 (*Hansard*, 29 September 1999, page 10333), what are the results of the planning study examining the need for additional ramps on the F5 between Casula and Campbelltown.
 - (2) What progress has been made in implementing the findings of the report.
- 1908 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—
- (1) Is he aware of a joint project between NASA and the CSIRO involving the use of aerial radar imaging to reveal aspects of the earth's geological structure.
 - (2) Is this a government sponsored project; if so, (a) can he say how and by whom the project was initiated and (b) what are the arrangements for the

distribution of the project's intellectual property rights between the project partners.

1909 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) On the most recent data, how many aged pension recipients reside in the postcode areas of (a) 3148, (b) 3149, (c) 3150, (d) 3151, (e) 3166, (f) 3167, (g) 3168 and (h) 3127.
- (2) On the most recent data, how many disability pension recipients reside in the postcode areas of (a) 3127 (b) 3129, (c) 3125, (d) 3147, (e) 3148, (f) 3149, (g) 3150, (h) 3151, (i) 3166, (j) 3167, (k) 3168 and (l) 3128.

1910 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) On the most recent data, (a) how many people residing in the Chisholm electorate have applied for the aged care savings bonus and (b) how many have received the full \$1000 and \$2000 bonus respectively.
- (2) How many complaints about the bonus have been lodged with Centrelink.
- (3) How many Centrelink clients have had their bonuses topped up through the review process.

4 September 2000

*1911 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) Is he aware of plans by companies in Fiji to import textiles from China and export the finished goods to Australia.
- (2) Will he make clear that Australia will discontinue its export credit scheme under which clothing imports to Australia from Fiji attract a 50% reduction in duty.
- (3) What measures are in place to alert Australian importers and Fijian exporters that attempts to import finished clothing to Australia would be a violation of the Australian sanctions on Fiji while Fiji is ruled by an undemocratic, unelected regime.

*1912 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is it the case that (a) prior to 1 July 1998 Australians leaving the country permanently could access their superannuation regardless of its value and (b) that until that time, superannuation deposits of less than \$500 could be withdrawn by their holders.
- (2) Is it also the case that since 1 July 1998 people leaving Australia permanently have been unable to access their superannuation before retirement unless their holdings are \$200 or less; if so, why.
- (3) Is he aware that as a result of these changes (a) young people leaving Australia with small superannuation holdings risk losing track of their superannuation altogether or having it eroded by fees or charges and (b) may be unable to access their superannuation for 30-40 years.
- (4) Will the Government consider reforming the superannuation early access rules to allow amounts held by Australians leaving the country permanently

to be rolled over into a complying fund in the country the claimant moves to; if not, why not.

- *1913 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) For each State and Territory, what proportion of Australian (a) three year olds and (b) four year olds attend preschool education.
 - (2) How do these statistics compare with other OECD nations.
 - (3) What initiatives has the Government taken to: (a) improve basic literacy and numeracy skills in preschool and (b) introduce diagnostic testing for speech and hearing among preschool students.
 - (4) Does the Government propose to introduce a national preschool program.
- *1914 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
Has agreement been reached between the Commonwealth and the States regarding the introduction of literacy and numeracy testing and benchmarking in years 7 and 9; if so, what progress has been made with the introduction of this program.
- *1915 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) Is the Government introducing a funding system for Catholic schools different to the remainder of the non-government sector; if so, (a) why and (b) will the Government collect and publish school-by-school data concerning (i) the allocation of Federal funds to each Catholic school and (ii) the performance of each school.
 - (2) Has the Government calculated the benefit to the Catholic systems if they joined the new SES funding model; if so, what do these calculations reveal.
 - (3) Is the Government aware of how each State and Territory Catholic system undertakes the distribution of funding between schools; if so, what are these methodologies.
 - (4) Is the Government aware of concerns that the distribution of funds within the New South Wales and Queensland Catholic systems is not as equitable as in the other States; if so, what action is the Government taking to correct this problem.
- *1916 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
Is it possible to apply the new SES methodology for the funding of non-government schools to the government sector; if so, what discussions has he or his Department had with their State and Territory counterparts on this matter.
- *1917 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
Is he aware of evaluation reports concerning the performance of Education Action Zones in Britain; if so, what do these reports show, particularly regarding the impact on school grades.
- *1918 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) What are the findings and recommendations of ANTA's Lifelong Learning Project.
 - (2) What progress has been made in the implementation of this report.
- *1919 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
For each Australian university: (a) what proportion of academic staff hold PhD qualifications; and (b) what proportion of graduates secure full-time employment

within a (i) three month, (ii) six month, and (iii) 12 month period and (c) what is the average starting salary for graduates moving into full-time employment.

- *1920 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) What progress has the Government made with the implementation of a Learning Circles program.
 - (2) What delays were experienced with the implementation of the program dealing with the Australian Republic and what were the reasons.
- *1921 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) What support does the Federal Government give to the adult and community education sector.
 - (2) What discussions has the Minister or his Department had with their State and Territory counterparts regarding the transfer of adult and community education responsibilities to the Commonwealth.
- *1922 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—Does the Government propose to allow early access to superannuation investments for the purpose of vocational training and lifelong learning.
- *1923 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What proportion of Australia's child care centres employ qualified preschool teachers.
 - (2) Does the Government propose to increase the component of preschool education in the child care sector; if so, what are the details of this initiative.
- *1924 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to research findings from the health economics unit at Monash University showing that (a) the cost of the 30% private health rebate has blown out to \$2.8 billion per annum and (b) the rebate will yield savings to public hospitals of no more than \$1.4 billion per annum.
 - (2) Has his Department undertaken a similar analysis; if so, what are the details.
 - (3) Is a 2:1 cost/benefit outcome seen as a satisfactory use of health outlays.
- *1925 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) In relation to the Commonwealth Acting Director of Public Prosecutions' (DPP) decision to decline to proceed with charges of defrauding the Commonwealth pursuant to section 29D of the Crimes Act 1914 (Cth) against the former Senator, Mr Malcolm Arthur Colston, was this a matter in which the Acting Director had declined to proceed 'after commitment' for the purposes of the Prosecution Policy.
 - (2) In reference to the DPP Media Statement dated 5 July 1999 titled 'Prosecution of Mr Malcolm Colston', what weight did the DPP put upon the following factors in declining to proceed; (a) 'health of the alleged offender' and (b) 'seriousness of the alleged offences'.
 - (3) Was the DPP asserting that irrespective of Mr Colston's health the matter is insufficiently serious to warrant the continuation of proceedings.
 - (4) Is he able to say which of the following consideration(s) under the Prosecution Policy were considered by the DPP when making the decision

not to proceed with the prosecution: (a) the ‘interests of the suspected offender’ (paragraph 2.2), (b) the ‘interests of the community at large’ (paragraph 2.2), (c) ‘fairness and consistency’ (paragraph 2.3), (d) the ‘sufficiency of evidence’ (paragraph 2.5), (e) the ‘presupposition of the impartiality of the jury’, particularly as it relates to Mr Colston’s illness and (f) that there was ‘no reasonable prospect of a conviction being secured’ (paragraph 2.5).

- (5) What public interest criteria were satisfied in commencing proceedings against Mr Colston.
- (6) What public interest criteria under the Prosecution Policy (paragraph 2.10) were satisfied in declining to proceed with prosecution.
- (7) To what extent was the ‘necessity to maintain public confidence in such basic institutions as the Parliament and the courts’ (Prosecution Policy subparagraph 2.10(t)) a paramount consideration in declining to proceed with prosecution.
- (8) Are there any alternative enforcement mechanisms available to the DPP in respect to possible action against Mr Colston; if so, what are they.
- (9) Are there any alternative enforcement mechanisms which could be considered in substitution to criminal proceedings against Mr Colston; if so, when will these alternative enforcement mechanisms be applied.
- (10) Would the DPP consider obtaining a further medical examination in order to ascertain Mr Colston’s current fitness to stand trial.
- (11) Will the DPP or another relevant agency consider new evidence (Prosecution Policy paragraph 5.22) as to the health of Mr Colston.
- (12) Was the decision not to proceed with prosecution made under the DPP’s power pursuant to subsection 9(4) of the Director of Public Prosecutions Act (Cth); if not, then under what power was the decision made.
- (13) When did (a) Mr Colston raise the issue of his health in respect to the proceedings against him, (b) the DPP commence investigations into the case of Mr Colston, (c) the DPP file and serve summon(es) on Mr Colston, (d) Mr Colston’s committal proceedings commence, (e) Mr Colston’s legal counsel file evidence of his medical condition, (f) Mr Colston’s hearing take place and (g) the DPP decline to take further proceedings.
- (14) In relation to the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Board’s Best Practice for Fraud Control – Fraud Control Policy of the Commonwealth, is it in the public interest to establish the current state of health of Mr Colston.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

SPEAKER'S PANEL

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

COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 39th Parliament

Standing

Pursuant to standing orders

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

Current inquiry:

Inquiry into the needs of Urban Dwelling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

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:

Art Indemnity Australia.

Managing fatigue in transport.

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

Current inquiries:

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.

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

Current inquiries:

Education of boys.

Employee share ownership in Australian enterprises.

ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE: Mr Causley (*Chair*), Mr Barresi, Mr Bartlett, Mr Billson, Mr Byrne, Mrs Gallus, Ms Gerick, 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 Gash Ms Hall, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Mr Quick, Mr Schultz, Dr Washer. (Mr Jenkins and Mr Nugent to serve as supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into indigenous health and Ms J. I. Bishop and Mrs Irwin to serve as supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into drugs.)

Current inquiry:

Social and economic costs of substance abuse.

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 Lloyd, Mr I. E. Macfarlane, 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 Griffin, Mr Kerr, 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.

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.

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 ORGANISATION: Mr Jull (*Presiding Member*), Mr Forrest, Mr McArthur, Mr McLeay, Senator Calvert, Senator S. Macdonald, Senator Ray.

Current inquiry:

Nature, scope and appropriateness of ASIO reporting to Australian public.

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 Greig, Senator McGauran.

Current inquiries:

Law enforcement implications of new technology.

Witness protection.

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, Mr St Clair, Mr Somlyay, Mr Tanner, Mr K. J. Thomson, 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.

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

Current inquiries:

- Adelaide—RAAF Base Edinburgh, Redevelopment Stage 1.
- Belconnen, ACT—Fitout of new leased premises for the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- Darwin—Development of 90 apartments.
- Delamere Range and RAAF Base Tindal, NT—Development of Range Support Facilities.
- Newcastle, NSW—CSIRO Energy Centre at Steel River.
- Perth—Proposed ABC Perth Accommodation Project.
- Stirling, ACT—Construction of mixed residential dwellings.
- Sydney—Remediation of Defence land at Neutral Bay.

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.

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, Dr 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 Calvert, Senator Chapman, Senator Cook, Senator Gibbs, Senator Harradine, Senator Hutchins, Senator S. Macdonald, Senator O'Brien, Senator Payne, Senator Schacht.

Current inquiries:

- Australia's efforts to promote and protect freedom of religion and belief.
- Australia's relations with the Middle East.
- Australia's relations with the United Nations.
- Australia's trade and investment relationship with South America.
- National interest statement: Australian Government loan to Papua New Guinea.
- Review of the Department of Defence Annual Report 1998-99.
- 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 inquiries:

- Provisions of the Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No 2) 2000. (*To report by 8 June 2000*).
- 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, Senator West.

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:

Australia's relationship with the World Trade Organisation.

Inquiry into the Kyoto Protocol.

Three Treaties tabled 15 August 2000.

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.*)

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*).