

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 141

MONDAY, 9 OCTOBER 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 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS:** Report. (*Statements to conclude by 12.40 p.m.*)
- 2 **EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on employee share ownership in Australian enterprises. (*Statements to conclude by 1.00 p.m.*)
- 3 **MIGRATION—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Review of Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2000. (*Statements to conclude by 1.20 p.m.*)
- 4 **COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND THE ARTS—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on managing fatigue in transport. (*Statements to conclude by 1.45 p.m.*)
- 5 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report 35: Agreement for co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

**Notice**

- †1 **MR EDWARDS:** To move—That this House calls on the Government of Burma to cease infringing the right of Aung San Suu Kyi to conduct her democratic activities with freedom and in safety and further calls on the Burmese Government to involve itself in a substantive political dialogue with her National League for Democracy. (*Notice given 4 September 2000. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time*)

\* 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.

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

- 1 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Question—That grievances be noted (*under standing order 106*).
- 2 **INDIGENOUS EDUCATION (TARGETED ASSISTANCE) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 October 2000—Ms Worth*) on the motion of Dr Kemp—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Lee, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House:
  - (1) notes the major disparity between the educational outcomes for indigenous Australians and the general population;
  - (2) calls for a renewed commitment from governments and education providers to address this disparity; and
  - (3) condemns the Government for:
    - (a) misleading the public by wrongly claiming the National Indigenous Literacy and Numeracy Strategy contained additional funding; and
    - (b) providing incorrect funding figures for indigenous education in the Budget Papers.
- 3 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (THEFT, FRAUD, BRIBERY AND RELATED OFFENCES) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1999—Mr Horne*).
- 4 **COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL LEGISLATION (PROVISION OF INFORMATION) BILL 2000** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 October 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 5 **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*).
- 6 **AGED CARE AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 September 2000—Mr Sciacca*).
- 7 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 August 2000—Mr O'Connor*).
- 8 **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*).
- 9 **WOOL SERVICES PRIVATISATION BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 September 2000—Mr Sciacca*).
- 10 **AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 September 2000—Mr Sciacca*).

- 11 **AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 September 2000—Mr McLeay*).
- 12 **NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT (IMPROVED MONITORING OF ENTITLEMENTS TO PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 September 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 13 **SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 August 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 14 **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*).
- 15 **FARM HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 September 2000—Mr Sciacca*).
- 16 **PRIVACY AMENDMENT (PRIVATE SECTOR) BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 April 2000—Mr McClelland*).
- 17 **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*).
- 18 **SYDNEY HARBOUR FEDERATION TRUST BILL 2000** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 26 June 2000*).
- 19 **AVIATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 April 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 20 **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*).
- 21 **FAMILY LAW LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION) BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 April 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 22 **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*).
- 23 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 2000** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 May 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 24 **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TRIBUNAL BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 June 2000—Mr Bevis*).
- 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 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (MORAL RIGHTS) BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1999—Mr O'Connor*).
- 32 **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*).
- 33 **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*).
- \*34 **HORTICULTURE MARKETING AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 October 2000—Dr Lawrence*).
- \*35 **HORTICULTURE MARKETING AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (REPEALS AND CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 October 2000—Dr Lawrence*).
- 36 **HUMAN RIGHTS (MANDATORY SENTENCING OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS) BILL 1999** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 15 March 2000*).
- 37 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendment (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 38 **CUSTOMS AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 39 **NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) BILL 1998**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 8 March 2000*).
- 40 **PETROL PRICING**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 443 (*from 16 August 2000*).

- 41 **INDIGENOUS CHILDREN:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 340 (*from 4 April 2000*).
- 42 **ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 309 (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 43 **CENSURE OF MINISTER FOR FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 183 (*from 24 August 1999*).
- 44 **GEELONG ROAD:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 171 (*from 12 August 1999*).
- 45 **CENTRELINK—LEVEL OF SERVICE:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 45 (*from 10 March 1999*).
- 46 **CENTRELINK:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (*from 12 November 1998*).
- \*47 **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION—THE ABORIGINAL LAND COMMISSIONER—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 October 2000—Dr Martin*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 48 **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION—ABORIGINALS BENEFITS ACCOUNT—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 October 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 49 **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION—BARROW CREEK (KAYTETYE) LAND CLAIM NO. 161 WITH EXPLANATORY STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 October 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 50 **AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY AGENCY—QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF ARPANSA FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 October 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 51 **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION—TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY (TSRA)—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 October 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 52 **NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL—STRATEGIC PLAN 2000-2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 October 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 53 **INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 September 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 54 **AGREEMENT MAKING UNDER THE WORKPLACE RELATIONS ACT—REPORTS 1998 AND 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption

of debate (*from 6 September 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 55 **CO-REGULATORY SCHEME FOR INTERNET CONTENT REGULATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 September 2000—Mr Beazley*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **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.
- 57 **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.
- 58 **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.
- 59 **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.
- 60 **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.
- 61 **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.
- 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 **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.
- 65 **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.

- 66 **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.
- 67 **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.
- 68 **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.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.
- 71 **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.
- 72 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Williams*):  
 Customs Tariff Proposal No. 7 (1999)—*moved 8 December 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr McClelland*).
- 73 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Slipper*):  
 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 (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*).

**74 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 **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 9 October 2000.*)
- 2 **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 sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 3 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 4 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

- 5 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 6 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 7 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 8 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 9 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 10 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 11 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.)*

- 12 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 13 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 14 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 15 **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 Snowden, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Snowden—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 9 October 2000.*)
- 16 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 17 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON 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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 18 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—FROM PHANTOM TO FORCE: TOWARDS A MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE ARMY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 September 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 9 October 2000.*)

- 19 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON AUSTRALIA’S TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTH AMERICA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 September 2000—Mr Prosser, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Prosser—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 9 October 2000.*)
- 20 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE NATURE, SCOPE AND APPROPRIATENESS OF ASIO’S PUBLIC REPORTING ACTIVITIES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 September 2000—Mr Jull, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Jull—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 21 **MIGRATION—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—NOT THE HILTON—IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTRES: INSPECTION REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 September 2000—Mrs Gallus, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs Gallus—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 9 October 2000.*)
- 22 **CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—‘SHADOW LEDGERS’ AND THE PROVISION OF BANK STATEMENTS TO CUSTOMERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 October 2000—Mr Sercombe, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Sercombe—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 9 October 2000.*)
- 23 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 October 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 8 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

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## PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS—*continued*

### Notice given for Monday, 9 October 2000

- \*1 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*. (*Notice given 5 October 2000.*)
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**Notices—continued**

- 1 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 2 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 3 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.)

4 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.)

5 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.)

6 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.)

7 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.)*

- 8 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.)*
- 9 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.)*
- 10 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.)*
- 11 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

12 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

13 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

14 **MR PRICE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the Report by the Committee of Sydney Inc “Sydney’s Gateways In The 21<sup>st</sup> 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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

15 **MR MOSSFELD:** 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 6 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

16 **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 Sirus 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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

17 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

18 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

## Orders of the day

- 1 **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 9 October 2000.*)
- 2 **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 9 October 2000.*)
- 3 **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 9 October 2000.*)
- 4 **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 9 October 2000.*)
- 5 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 6 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)

- 7 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 8 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 9 **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 the next sitting Monday after 9 October 2000.*)
- 10 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 11 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 12 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 13 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 14 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

15 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

16 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

17 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.)*

- 18 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 19 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 20 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 21 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 22 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 23 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 24 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 25 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 26 **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 1930s and the 1960s 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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 27 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 28 **AVIATION NOISE OMBUDSMAN BILL 2000** (*Mr Albanese*): Second reading (*from 4 September 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 29 **WATER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 September 2000*) on the motion of Mr Lawler—That this 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;
  - (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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)
- 30 **CHILD ABUSE:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 September 2000*) on the motion of Mrs Irwin—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 9 October 2000.*)

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

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS** (standing orders 101 and 104) has precedence from the conclusion of consideration of committee and delegation reports, being interrupted at 1.45 p.m. and then continuing for 1 hour after the presentation of petitions each Monday. The **SELECTION COMMITTEE** is responsible for determining the order of precedence and allotting time for debate on consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business. Its determinations for 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).

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## BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

### GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

#### Order of the day

1 **CLASSIFICATION (PUBLICATIONS, FILMS AND COMPUTER GAMES) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 October 2000*) on the motion of Mr Williams—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr McClelland, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for:

- (1) not proceeding with the NVE classification; and
- (2) delaying the implementation of classification reform restricting the availability of violent and demeaning material currently permitted within the X classification.

### 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 6 September 2000—Ms Kernot, 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.



## 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*

- 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.

*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.

*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.

*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*

- 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*

- 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.

- 1290 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Was the document posted on the ATO website at [taxreform.ato.gov.au/publications/1999](http://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.

*10 April 2000*

- 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*

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.
- 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*

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.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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*

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.

*21 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*

**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.

1681 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.

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.

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (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.

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.
- 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.

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

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.

1777 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1780 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

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.

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.

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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.
- 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.

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.

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.

**MR TANNER:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1824 - 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.

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

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.

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.

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

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*

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.
- 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.
- 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.

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).

*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 (*Hansard*, 30 August 2000, page 17936) 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.

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.

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 representing the Assistant Treasurer.

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.

### *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, Chiman, 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.

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.
- 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.

- 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.
- 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 representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

*5 September 2000*

1926 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is Australia the only significant developed nation to refuse to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; if so, why.

- (2) What explanation will he give the UN Millennium Conference with regard to Australia's position.

1927 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What action will the Government take to ensure that its decision to refuse the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women will not have a negative impact on overcoming discrimination against Australian women.
- (2) Will the Government make a commitment to ensure the determinations of the Sexual Discrimination Commissioner are implemented in legislation.

**DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1931 - 1933)—

- (1) Does the Minister stand by the definition of a refugee used in the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees as a person owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country.
- (2) Are refugees being accorded treatment as favourable as possible with regard to education, as Australia committed itself to do in Article 22 of the Convention; if so, how does this correlate with the Temporary Protection Visa provision to deny access to basic English classes.
- (3) Is the policy of mandatory detention consistent with Australia's commitment to Article 31 of the Convention which forbids imposing penalties on illegal entrants.
- (4) Do the Government's actions meet the criterion stated in Article 31 of the Convention that refugees should be given a reasonable period and all the necessary facilities to obtain admission into another country.
- (5) Did the Minister abide by Article 45 of the Convention, which provides an official process for revision of the Convention, rather than publicly criticising and ceasing cooperation with the treaty bodies created by this Convention; if not, why not.

1931 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

1932 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

1933 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

1934 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Given the condemnation Australia has received from various UN treaty bodies, how can he maintain in his "Meet the Press" media interview on 3 September 2000 that the Government adheres to Australia's treaty obligations.
- (2) Is his recent announcement of Australia's position with regard to the UN Treaty bodies in contravention of Article 35 of the Convention which

ensures Contracting States undertake to cooperate with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

1935 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) In reference to his “Meet the Press” media interview on 3 September 2000 and his claim that people whose claims would not be accepted as refugee claims elsewhere are accepted in Australia, is he able to say which other Western nations are in this position and what are these tougher criteria.
- (2) Is it an acceptable argument to reject UN submissions about individual refugees who have met international criteria, simply because some other countries may not accept them.

1936 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—In reference to his “Meet the Press” media interview on 3 September 2000 and his dislike of the practice of photographs being taken in detention centres due to possible acts of retribution that may be taken against family members residing in the home country, why does he refuse accepted refugees from reuniting with their spouse and children, which gives rise to similar and more serious human rights threats to their families.

1937 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Given that the vast majority of the Kosovar refugees have been returned, and the drastic circumstances of the 18 refugees remaining in detention in Australia, eight of whom are children, and all of whom come from Preshevo in Southern Serbia, which the UNHCR has reported cannot return to their home villages, will he immediately release these 18 refugees to the care of the Kosovar Community and support groups of Australia, pending further determination of their permanent resident status.

1938 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What programs or grants administered by the Minister’s Department provide assistance to people living in the electoral division of Melbourne Ports.
- (2) What was the level of funding provided through these programs or grants in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99 and (d) 1999-2000.

1939 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Sport and Tourism—

- (1) What was the level of funding provided through programs or grants administered by her Department to provide assistance to people living in the electoral division of Melbourne Ports in 1999-2000.
- (2) What level of funding provided through these programs or grants has been appropriated for 2000-2001.

1940 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Will the Government remove the requirement for the lodgement of tax returns for certain classes of employees; if so, which employees.
- (2) Has the Taxation Task Force considered this proposal; if so, what work has it undertaken.
- (3) Did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) consider the idea of option tax returns.

- (4) Did the ATO pilot the statement approach in 2000-2001; if not, why not.
- (5) Will this idea be considered by the Board of Taxation.

*6 September 2000*

1941 **MR HORNE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to promises made on numerous occasions in recent years by members of his Government to base the Airborne Early Warning and Control unit at RAAF Base Williamtown.
- (2) Has the Minister for Defence indicated that he will be retiring from politics at the end of 2000; if so, will he assure the people of the Hunter Region that his Government will support the Airborne Early Warning and Control unit at RAAF Base Williamtown.

1942 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many persons registered with the Centrelink office in Fairfield, NSW, (a) applied for and (b) received the Aged Persons Savings Bonus.
- (2) How many pensioners registered with the Fairfield Centrelink office received a payment between \$1 and \$50.
- (3) How many persons registered with the Fairfield Centrelink office received an Aged Persons Savings Bonus of less than \$1.
- (4) How many pensioners registered with the Fairfield Centrelink office received the maximum Aged Persons Savings Bonus of \$1000 for pensioners and \$2000 for self funded retirees.
- (5) What was the average Aged Persons Savings Bonus paid to (a) pensioners and (b) self funded retirees registered with the Fairfield Centrelink office.
- (6) How many persons living in the electoral division of Prospect (a) applied for and (b) received the Aged Persons Savings Bonus.
- (7) How many pensioners in the electoral division of Prospect received an Aged Persons Saving Bonus payment between \$1 and \$50.
- (8) How many persons in the electoral division of Prospect received an Aged Persons Saving Bonus of less than \$1.
- (9) How many persons in the electoral division of Prospect received the maximum Aged Persons Savings Bonus of \$1000 for pensioners and \$2,000 for self funded retirees.
- (10) How many persons living in the electoral division of Prospect appealed to have their Aged Persons Savings Bonus payment adjusted.
- (11) What was the average Aged Persons Savings Bonus paid to (a) pensioners and (b) self funded retirees in the electoral division of Prospect.

1944 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What is the procedure for the determination of the refugee status of temporary protection visa holders after the three year period has concluded.
- (2) Will these genuine refugees be subject to another temporary visa, or be given permanent visa status.

- (3) If these refugees will be eligible for a permanent visa, (a) what specific process will be put into place for the provision of these visas and (b) will these refugees be required to go through the whole refugee determination process again.

1945 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) If a charitable organisation has had its funding cut by virtue of receiving a Commonwealth Jobs Network grant gross up of only 7.2% following the introduction of the GST, can it claim a top up adjustment from the Commonwealth.
- (2) If not, are they disadvantaged in providing those services compared to non-charitable organisations in the employment services sector.
- (3) What is the reason for differential approaches between Departments, including the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, the Department of Family and Community Services and the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs, in the percentages used to gross up grants to charitable organisations providing government funded services following the introduction of the GST.

*7 September 2000*

1950 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Are there Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulations governing the regularity of checking and clearing debris and objects from runways at Australia's capital city and major regional airports, if so (a) how often are checks required, (b) does CASA conduct audits to ensure airport compliance with CASA runway inspection regulations, (c) how many audits have been conducted since 1995, and at which airports have they been conducted and (d) have there been any prosecutions or show cause notices issued to airport operators with respect to the runway inspection regulations since 1995.
- (2) Is the airport owner or operator responsible for ensuring the checks occur.
- (3) Do airport operators record the frequency of runway checks.

1951 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a letter dated 20 December 1999 written by the Acting Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) regarding the individual complaints process of the Convention Against Torture in response to correspondence from the Secretary of his Department dated 25 October 1999.
- (2) When was the possibility of withdrawing from the individual complaints process first mooted within his Department.
- (3) Was the original letter from the Secretary of his Department suggesting that the possible withdrawal from the individual complaints process be kept open as an option written at his direction.
- (4) Has his Department been contemplating the withdrawal from any other obligations or processes adopted by Australia as part of the UN Human Rights treaty committees.

- (5) Was DFAT's advice that withdrawal from the individual complaints process would have serious ramifications for Australia's reputation on human rights and credibility in seeking reform of the UN treaty committee system considered in the Government's decision to implement the package of measures to improve interaction with UN human rights treaty committees which he announced with the Attorney-General and the Minister for Foreign Affairs on 29 August 2000.

1952 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Is he aware of plans of the Office of Asset Sales and IT Outsourcing (OASITO) to replace IT infrastructure and services at the CSIRO, Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), Australian Geological Survey Organisation (AGSO), Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) and the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) with a single IT contract.
- (2) Will requests for tenders will be announced; if so, (a) when, (b) what are the terms and conditions of the tender and (c) will the successful tenderer (i) have access to the CSIRO's clients' information and (ii) be required to have scientifically qualified staff who will work closely with the scientific staff at the CSIRO, ANSTO, AIMS, AGSO, AAD and BOM.
- (3) Will the successful tenderer be required to supply staff on site to all scientific agencies and sites; if not, which sites in which agencies will not have permanent on site IT staff.
- (4) What formal assessment or study has been completed, either by the Government, or another organisation to ensure that outsourcing the IT infrastructure and services will be more productive and beneficial to the development of science in Australia.
- (5) Due to the size, complexity, viability and importance of such a contract to the development of Australian science, would a local IT business be best suited to the terms of the contract.
- (6) Can he guarantee that there will be no job losses at the CSIRO, ANSTO, AIMS, AGSO, AAD and BOM as a result of outsourcing IT infrastructure and services.

1953 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many applicants have applied for the position of Federal Magistrate in Launceston.
- (2) How many of those applicants were deemed to meet the selection criteria for the position of the Federal Magistrate.
- (3) When did the interviews of the applicants take place.
- (4) How many applicants have been recommended for the position by the selection panel.
- (5) What is the process for acceptance of any applicant recommended by the selection panel.
- (6) What was the initial time frame for announcing the successful applicant for the 1 July 2000 starting date.



- (7) What is the Government's current time frame for announcing the successful applicant.
- (8) When will the position of Federal Magistrate in Launceston be operational.
- 1954 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Will he bring up to date the information provided in his answers to paragraphs 4 to 8 in question No. 834 (*Hansard*, 2 September 1999, page 9904) concerning the Unesco Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague, 1954).
- 1955 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—How much Federal Government funding is allocated to each Catholic school in the electoral division of Werriwa.
- 1957 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Further to the answer to question number 1655 (*Hansard*, 5 September 2000, page 18217) concerning former Senator Colston, is he able to say whether the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs exercised his power under subsection 488(2)(e) of the *Migration Act 1958*, to authorise a member of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to perform for the purposes of law enforcement one or more of those actions in subsection 488(1) of the Act; if so, what were the particulars of that authority; if not, were reasons given for the Minister not authorising a member of the AFP.
  - (2) Is he able to say whether the movement records of former Senator Colston is information relevant to the charge of defrauding the Commonwealth made against him.
  - (3) Is he also able to say whether the movement records of former Senator Colston is information relevant to protecting the public revenue.
  - (4) If an authority has not been given by the Minister pursuant to subsection 488(2)(e), will he advise the Minister to give such authority to a member of the AFP.
- 1958 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Further to the answer to question number 1655 (*Hansard*, 5 September 2000, page 18217) concerning former Senator Colston, did he exercise his power under subsection 488(2)(e) of the *Migration Act 1958* to authorise a member of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to perform for the purposes of law enforcement one or more of those actions in subsection 488(1) of the Act; if so, what were the particulars of that authority; if not, why not.
  - (2) Is he able to say whether the movement records of former Senator Colston is information relevant to the charge of defrauding the Commonwealth made against former Senator Colston.
  - (3) Is he also able to say whether the movement records of former Senator Colston is information relevant to protecting the public revenue.
  - (4) If he has not given an authority pursuant to subsection 488(2)(e), will he give such authority to a member of the AFP.
- 1959 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) How many nursing homes are operating within the electoral division of Lowe.

- (2) How many complaints have been received by her, her Department and the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency against nursing homes within the electoral division of Lowe between October 1998 and 6 September 2000
- (3) How many spot checks of nursing homes have been conducted by her Department and the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency within the electoral division of Lowe between October 1998 and 6 September 2000

1960 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Did Australia accede on 20 March 1973 to the Statute of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT).
- (2) On what occasions, in what circumstances and with what results did his Department last consider ratification of, or accession to, each of the conventions drawn up by the Institute.

1962 **MR BRERETON:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Does his Department have proposals to sell-off its extensive Bundock Street site in the electoral division of Kingsford-Smith.
- (2) Does the Bundock Street site include premises leased to The Children's Garden Rudolf Steiner School by his Department.
- (3) Is he aware of the very valuable educational role of this school and its reputation for excellence.
- (4) Is he able to say whether the school spent tens of thousands of dollars on the rehabilitation of the buildings it occupies and regularly spent further monies on extensive remediation of the surrounding land.
- (5) Did his Department commit itself to allow the school to continue in its premises as part of the proposed development of the Bundock Street site.
- (6) Did his Department indicate to the school that it would be offered a new lease so that it would not be left homeless and its existence not threatened by his Department's desire to sell off the Bundock Street site.
- (7) Has his Department reneged on its commitments and is now threatening the school with eviction upon the expiry of its current lease on 31 December 2000.
- (8) Is he able to say whether the school council has been obliged to condemn his Department's statements concerning the Bundock Street site and the future of the School as generally misleading and in some instances completely false.
- (9) Is he aware that his Department's actions have caused enormous anxiety amongst the school community and threatens the school's viability and survival.
- (10) Will he intervene in this matter and ensure his Department does not force the closure of The Children's Garden Rudolf Steiner School.

1964 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—

- (1) How many (a) barristers, (b) solicitors and (c) administrative staff were employed by the Commonwealth of Australia in Darwin for the conduct of the recently determined Stolen Generation Cases (*Cubillo v. Commonwealth*

of *Australia and Gunner v. Commonwealth of Australia* ("the Stolen Generation Cases").

- (2) Other than barristers, solicitors and administrative staff employed by the Commonwealth in Darwin in connection with the Stolen Generation Cases, were there other barristers, solicitors, administrative staff and others employed by the Commonwealth in the conduct of the Commonwealth's case; if so, how many (a) barristers, (b) solicitors, (c) administrative staff and (d) others were employed by the Commonwealth in places other than Darwin in the conduct of the Stolen Generation Cases.
- (3) What has been the total cost to date, or if precise figures are not available, the approximate total cost, of the conduct of the Commonwealth's case in the Stolen Generation Cases.
- (4) Who instructed counsel for the Commonwealth about the scope of their cross-examination of Mrs Cubillo, Mr Gunner and other witnesses called by the applicants in the Stolen Generation Cases.
- (5) Is it expected by superior courts in Australia that the Commonwealth will conduct all litigation in which it is involved as a model litigant.
- (6) Did the counsel for the Commonwealth in the Stolen Generation Cases suggest to Mrs Cubillo and Mr Gunner in cross-examination that they were lying and suggest to the Honourable Justice O'Loughlin in submissions that Mr Gunner and Mrs Cubillo were lying about their experiences; if so, what was the basis of such suggestions.
- (7) Did counsel for the Commonwealth submit to the Court that witnesses called by Mr Gunner who gave evidence of sexual abuse in St. Mary's Home in Alice Springs were lying and had conspired to concoct false evidence; if so, what was the basis of such submissions.
- (8) Was counsel for the Commonwealth involved in passing on evidence given in the case of *Gunner v. Commonwealth of Australia* to Mr Constable, the person found by Justice O'Loughlin to be the sexual molester of Mr Gunner, so as to permit Mr Constable to change his evidence.
- (9) Did (a) he or (b) the Prime Minister give instructions to counsel for the Commonwealth concerning the conduct of the Stolen Generation Cases.
- (10) Did the Commonwealth employ private detective agencies in conducting the Stolen Generation Cases; if so, what was the cost of hiring these private detective agencies.
- (11) Is it standard practice for the Commonwealth to employ private detectives in the conduct of civil litigation.
- (12) During the conduct of the Stolen Generation Cases, were there members of the Prime Minister's staff present in court at any time.
- (13) Did members of the staff of the Prime Minister or members of his staff instruct counsel for the Commonwealth as to the nature and scope of cross-examination.
- (14) What is the total number of applicants bringing Federal or High Court proceedings against the Commonwealth of Australia similar to the cases brought by Mr Gunner and Mrs Cubillo.

- (15) What is the total number of cases brought against the Commonwealth by persons alleging that they are the children or grandchildren of Aboriginal people removed from their families.
- (16) Have any attempts been made by the Commonwealth to resolve the claims brought against the Commonwealth in cases similar to that brought by Mr Gunner and Mrs Cubillo; if so, what attempts have been made.
- (17) Has an estimate been made of the cost of resolving all Stolen Generation litigation brought against the Commonwealth without requiring further litigation; if so, what is that estimated cost.

*3 October 2000*

1965 **MS HALL:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Have savings bonus cheques been returned to him by disgruntled pensioners; if so, what will he do with those cheques.
- (2) What will he do, or has he done, with cheques and money orders made out to him and sent by pensioners insulted by receiving cheques for minuscule sums.

1966 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In respect of the most recent judicial appointment to the High Court, (a) what was the process by which the Government made the appointment, (b) according to what criteria did the Government select the most suitable person to be appointed, (c) at what stage of the process, if any, did consultation with the legal profession on the proposed person to be appointed occur, (d) at what stage of the process, if any, did consultation with governments of the States and Territories on the proposed person to be appointed occur and (e) what was the outcome of that process.
- (2) What are the barriers to increased consultation with the legal profession and governments of the States and Territories on proposed appointments to the High Court.
- (3) In respect of the most recent judicial appointment to the (a) Federal Court, (b) Family Court and (c) Federal Magistrates Service, (i) what was the process by which the Government made the appointment, (ii) according to what criteria did the Government select the most suitable person to be appointed, (iii) at what stage of the process, if any, did consultation with the legal profession on the proposed person to be appointed occur and (iv) what was the outcome of that process.
- (4) What are the barriers to increased consultation with the legal profession on proposed appointments to the (a) Federal Court, (b) Family Court and (c) Federal Magistrates Service.

1967 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the answer to question No. 1580 (*Hansard*, 31 August 2000, page 18047), will he update that answer in respect of the meeting of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General held in Brisbane on 27 to 28 July 2000.

1968 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Have flight patterns for Hoxton Park Airport changed recently; if so, why.

- (2) Have there been 4 serious incidents at Hoxton Park Airport in the last 2 years; if so, why are flights now directed over residential areas.
- 1969 **MR KERR:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is there an independent tribunal to deal with appeals lodged by claimants to unfavourable decisions relating to the Government's Bonus for Older Australians; if not, why not.
  - (2) Are receipt of all appeals acknowledged in writing by the Australian Taxation Office; if not, why not.
  - (3) Do the qualification guidelines for the Bonus for Older Australians preclude claimants from receipt of the bonus because they have suffered a financial loss in previous years; if so, why.
- 1970 **MR LEE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) Does the table "Catholic Systems - ERI/SES Funding - 1999 Figures", provided by his Department, show that the change from ERI category 11 to SES-based funding for non-government schools involves an additional \$100 704 281 per year for Catholic systems.
  - (2) What are the estimates for each year from 2001 to 2004.
- 1971 **MR LEE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) What was the most recent movement in Average Government Schools Recurrent Costs for (a) primary and (b) secondary schools
  - (2) By what sum were the figures contained in the States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Bill 2000 indexed to give the new figures contained in the Government's amendment to the Bill.
  - (3) What steps were involved in calculating the sum referred to in part (2).
- 1972 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Community Services—Will Centrelink's decision to use a telephone contact number with a "13" prefix result in Centrelink customers paying a higher rate of 25 cents for a local call to Centrelink rather than 15 cents per call if they had access to neighbourhood calls; if so, why was the decision made.
- 1973 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) In the context of Australian comments concerning Sri Lanka at the 56th Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, 20 March to 28 April 2000, what has been the level of sales of Australian military and dual use equipment to Sri Lanka in (a) 1997-98, (b) 1998-99 and 1999-2000.
  - (2) When did the Inter Departmental Committee chaired by his Department, for the granting of export licences, last assess Sri Lanka's human rights picture, and what was the outcome of the review.
  - (3) Have Sri Lankan defence personnel been trained in Australia; if so, what was the nature of the training.
- 1974 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Are training courses available for a blind 24 year old man in regional Victoria to enable him to gain meaningful employment; if so, what are they; if not, what plans are envisaged to provide appropriate training.

- 1975 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has a decision been made on the application by the Salvation Army to provide a Bendigo contact service for children of separated parents; if so, when will the Salvation Army be advised of the decision.
- 1976 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What increase in funding for microcredit has been included in the 2000-2001 aid budget.
  - (2) Is the additional funding supporting lending to the poorest people.
  - (3) Is the funding being used to enable non-government organisations to distribute assistance to individual microcredit programs.
- 1977 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Are compensation payments to some former Commonwealth employees still frozen at pre-1988 levels as a result of the *Commonwealth Safety and Rehabilitation Act 1988*.
  - (2) How many former employees are affected in this way.
  - (3) What is the annual value of the payments made to those affected public servants.
  - (4) Did he or other representatives of the then Opposition promise to change the Act prior to the 1996 general election; if so, what action has been taken to implement the decision.
- 1978 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Did ComSuper in the 1970s and 1980s (a) formulate guidelines for Departments to enable them to fully inform resignees of their superannuation entitlements, (b) train personnel staff in agent Departments to ensure consistent application of the guidelines and (c) regularly monitor Departments to ensure adherence to the guidelines; if so, can documentation be provided to prove that it did so.
  - (2) What percentage of resignees eligible to defer did so between (a) 1977 and 1987 when form S2A was in use, (b) 1988 and 1992 when there was some awareness of the deferred benefits option and (c) 1993 to 2000.
  - (3) Is the percentage referred to in part (2)(a) low compared to the percentage in part (2)(c); if so, is he able to say why.
  - (4) Was Form S2A redesigned; if so, (a) why and (b) was it considered inadequate.
- 1979 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Has the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) recommended that the pharmaceutical Ritalin (methylphenidate hydrochloride) be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
  - (2) Did he accept the recommendation made by the PBAC in relation to Ritalin; if not, why not.
- 1980 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What are the estimates for (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004 for the Regional Solutions Programme (RSP).

- (2) For each year referred to in part (1), of the totals for each year, what amounts are to come from reductions in funding for the Regional Assistance Programme and what amounts from the sale of an Australian Maritime Safety vessel.
  - (3) Have the amounts for the RSP been incorporated into the forward estimates; if not, when will this occur.
- 1981 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Is the Australian Film Television and Radio School campus at North Ryde carried as an asset in the Commonwealth's balance sheet; if so, (a) has the valuation been based on historic cost, replacement value or deprival value, (b) when was the valuation made and (c) what is the balance sheet value.
- 1982 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) What are the forward estimates for (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004 for the Regional Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund.
  - (2) What sum has been committed to projects for each year referred to in part (1).
- 1983 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) What are the forward estimates for (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2002-2003 and (c) 2003-2004 for the Regional Assistance Programme.
  - (2) What sum of the estimates in each year is committed.
- 1984 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—What are the forward estimates for (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004 for operating subsidies for Comcar.
- 1985 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) What were the key findings of the valuation of Telstra in the Commonwealth's balance sheet referred to in Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Budget Estimates hearings (*Senate Committee Hansard*, 23 May 2000, pages 157-8).
  - (2) Were forward estimates of the sale cost, net income and underlying budget impact of the sale of the Commonwealth's remaining two thirds share of Telstra provided at pages 2 to 39 of Budget Paper No. 1 in 1998-99; if so, why cannot this same information be provided with respect to the sale of the Commonwealth's remaining interest in Telstra on the basis that it is "commercially confidential".
- 1986 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1566 (*Hansard*, 14 August 2000, page 17327), which of the agreements listed in the answer were cleared by the Office of Asset Sales and IT Outsourcing (OASITO).
  - (2) Further to the answer to part (2) of question No. 1564 (*Hansard*, 28 August 2000, page 17721), what were the names of the organisations about which Centrelink consulted OASITO in relation to its IT acquisitions.

1987 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1566 (*Hansard*, 14 August 2000, page 17327), what IBM or IBM-owned products which are not implemented in Centrelink at present, does Centrelink plan to implement prior to outsourcing.
- (2) If there are no current plans, is Centrelink developing plans to implement IBM products that are not presently implemented.
- (3) Which of the products referred to in parts (1) or (2) are within the scope for outsourcing.
- (4) What incumbent products will the IBM products replace.
- (5) What are the recommended products and who approved these plans.
- (6) Were any of these products acquired in the agreements listed in the answer to question No. 1566; if so, which products.
- (7) Was the Office of Asset Sales and IT Outsourcing notified of the plans.
- (8) Have these IBM products been tendered by the short listed outsource providers.

1988 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to question No. 1805 concerning the proposed Goulburn Valley Shepparton Highway by-pass, has the Government undertaken work on all the by-pass options; if so, what is the nature of the work undertaken and the associated costings of the road work.

1989 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1761 (*Hansard*, 3 October 2000, page 18559), are all imported second hand or used buses and coaches required to comply with Australian Design Rules (ADRs); if so, what legislation or regulation specifies this 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 (a) effect of any such change on the safety of passengers travelling in those imported second hand or used buses and coaches and (b) the cost of an imported second hand or used bus or coach relative to an Australian one.
- (4) Which agency, Department or authority is responsible for auditing imported second hand or used buses and coaches to ensure they comply with ADRs.
- (5) How many audits has that organisation conducted each year since 1995 and how quickly are audits conducted after date of importation.
- (6) How many second hand or used buses and coaches were imported in each year since 1995 and from which country were they imported.
- (7) When audited, how many of these imported second hand or used buses and coaches were found not to comply with ADRs.



- 1990 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How many flights per week are made by Fokker 27 aircraft in and out of Perth airport.
  - (2) What rules or regulations determine the flight paths followed by these aircraft.
  - (3) Are there any safety, environmental or operational reasons why these aircraft cannot use jet aircraft flight paths.
  - (4) Would the use by these aircraft of the jet flight paths reduce the noise for residents.
  - (5) What steps is the Government taking to reduce the impact of Fokker 27 noise on Perth residents.
- 1991 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) now using its website as the primary means of communicating with the aviation industry.
  - (2) Are there any documents, draft regulations or discussion papers on that site that are only made available via the website.
  - (3) What steps has CASA taken to ensure that aviation operators, especially those in rural and regional Australia who do not have effective access to internet facilities, (a) stay informed and involved in proposed changes to regulations that affect their industry and (b) access other information on the website that they require to operate in the aviation industry.
  - (4) How many hits has the CASA website received each month since September 1999.
- 1992 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did he state at a Conference on the Gold Coast on 14 July 2000 that the Melbourne to Brisbane railway had the capacity to proceed without Government funding.
  - (2) Has the Federal Government been approached for financial assistance for the project; if so, what was the nature of the approach.
  - (3) Will the Government provide financial assistance for the project.
  - (4) On what basis were Members of Parliament and local government leaders appointed by him to a Task Force Committee to examine the Melbourne to Brisbane railway.
  - (5) Who was appointed to the Task Force Committee.
- 1993 **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 the 1998 Sydney to Hobart yacht race, what was the final cost to the Government, including the Department of Defence, of using civil search and rescue services and the defence force in the rescue operations.

- (2) Is he able to say whether the Bureau of Meteorology issued race officials with a gale warning for part of the race area about 4 hours before the race start, which was upgraded to the first of a series of storm warnings, the most severe warning issued by the Bureau outside tropical latitudes about an hour after the start of the race; if so, was any of the cost to the Government of using civil search and rescue services and the defence force in the rescue recoverable; if not, has the Government considered changing its policy to make such costs recoverable.

1994 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did his electorate office request his Department to supply it with a list of all projects, grants and funding programs in the electoral division of Gwydir since March 1996; if so, who authorised the request.
- (2) Was it requested that where possible the information be provided by specific localities in the electorate, including Wellington, Mudgee, Gulgong, Gilgandra, Coonamble, Baradine, Coonabarabran, Binnaway, Coolah, Mendooran, Gunnedah, Boggabri, Narrabri, Warialda, Moree, Wee Waa, Walgett, Collarenebri, Lightning Ridge and Mungindi.
- (3) Was the material prepared by noon Wednesday, 20 September 2000 in accordance with a memo of 13 September 2000 from the Acting Director of Policy Development and Coordination.
- (4) What was the cost incurred by his Department to prepare the material.
- (5) Has his Department produced similar reports for other electoral divisions; if so, (a) which divisions and (b) who authorised the preparation of the reports.
- (6) What are the details of the response prepared by his Department to the request from his electorate office, of the projects, grants and funding programs in the electoral division of Gwydir since March 1996.

1995 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) For each month since the stevedoring levy was introduced by the Government to facilitate the funding by the Maritime Industry Finance Company (MIFCO) of redundancy obligations by stevedoring companies as a result of the 1998 maritime dispute, what sum has been paid by each company liable to pay the levy.
- (2) For each month since the levy was introduced, (a) what sum has been paid by MIFCO to each company eligible to receive payments and (b) how many employees has each company made redundant.
- (3) Will some companies receive far less in payments from MIFCO than the levy they have paid; if so, what is the reason for the inequity.
- (4) For each month since stevedoring companies were required to pay the levy, what has been the performance of companies receiving payments from MIFCO against the Government's productivity benchmarks compared to productivity levels at the time of the 1998 maritime dispute.
- (5) Were any companies exceeding or equalling the Government's productivity benchmarks in advance of the 1998 maritime dispute; if so, (a) who were they, (b) are they required to pay the levy; if so, is it inequitable for such

companies to be required to pay the levy to assist non-performing stevedoring companies and (c) what payments have they made to MIFCO.

- (6) Has the Government received complaints that some companies receiving MIFCO payments are using payments to offer artificial incentives to assist them in competition with other stevedoring companies.
  - (7) Has the Government been advised that Sea-Land believes Patricks has been able to use the levy payments to offer artificial incentives to South Australian exporters and importers to ship via Melbourne to the disadvantage of South Australian operators; if so, does the accusation have any foundation.
- 1996 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What revenue has been collected from the Passenger Movement Charge each year since 1995, including 2000.
- 1997 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What has been the cost each year since 1995, including 2000, of providing customs services and processing at each airport where those services are provided.
- 1998 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—What has been the cost each year since 1995, including 2000, of providing immigration services and processing at each airport where those services are provided.
- 1999 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—What has been the cost each year since 1995, including 2000, of providing quarantine services and processing at each airport where those services are provided.
- 2000 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Does a landlord require an Australian Business Number (ABN).
  - (2) Does a tenant require an ABN.
  - (3) Is a tenant who is operating a business from their rented accommodation required to supply an ABN to the landlord.
  - (4) Does Taxation Ruling MT 2000/2 state that “If you let out residential premises where the whole of the premises is to be used predominantly for residential accommodation purposes you are entitled to get an ABN, but you do not need one for PAYG withholding purposes”; if so, what is the definition of “whole” and “predominantly” and how is the determination arrived at.
  - (5) If a taxpayer rents a residential flat and uses one of the three bedrooms to run a web publishing business is he or she required to provide an ABN to the landlord.
  - (6) How does a landlord determine (a) the use of the premises and (b) whether or not they should require the presentation of an ABN.
- 2001 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the average or standard cost of providing a woman with in-vitro fertilisation treatment.

- (2) How much of the cost is (a) covered by Medicare and (b) paid by the patient.
- 2002 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Community Services—If a child is born to a couple as a result of in-vitro fertilisation treatment, and the couple subsequently separates, is the (a) non-custodial parent liable to pay child support and (b) custodial parent required to seek to obtain that child support as a condition of accessing social security if the couple has been (i) married, (ii) in a defacto heterosexual relationship and (iii) in a same sex relationship.
- 2003 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Do Australia Post outlets no longer stock the complete range of Australian phone directories.
  - (2) What is the reason for the withdrawal of phone directories from Australia Post outlets.
  - (3) Does the Minister recognise that while phone directories are available on-line, many people, particularly in country areas, do not have access to the Internet and require the use of hard copies.
  - (4) Will the Government take action to restore this service, if not why not.
- 2004 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—
- (1) Is the Minister able to say what are the current costs of production of oil in Australia as declared by the major companies involved in such production.
  - (2) On a year-by-year scale, how does this cost compare with previous years since 1990.
  - (3) How do the costs of production compare with those in other oil producing countries, including the USA, Saudi Arabia, the Gulf States and Nigeria.
  - (4) How does the cost of Australian production compare with the OPEC price and on a year-by-year scale, what has been this comparison since 1990.
  - (5) What is the reason for the difference between the cost of production in Australia and the OPEC figures.
- 2005 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—
- (1) Is the Minister able to say what are the current rates of profit of the oil-production companies within Australia and on a year-by-year scale, how does this compare with previous years since 1990.
  - (2) What percentage of these profits is currently being spent on exploration and on a year-by-year scale, how does this compare with previous years since 1990.
  - (3) Given the level of profits made by the oil production companies, is the Government satisfied that the level of investment in exploration justifies the linking of Australia's oil prices to the international price.
- 2006 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) What efforts are being made to implement new technologies that would serve to loosen the grip that oil companies have on the Australian motorist.
- (2) Is the Government exploring the idea of alternative fuels to be used in new cars, such as the use of ethanol based E-85 in all government cars in Illinois, USA.
- (3) Is the Government prepared to follow the lead of other nations such as the USA and implement an initiative which would promote clean fuel-burning and also serve to help sugar farmers who could sell their sugar cane to produce the ethanol needed for E-85.

2007 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) In reference to his comments on the decision by the NZ Government to introduce new provisions to regularise the immigration status of certain overstayers, is he considering a change in Government policy in relation to Australia's current common immigration agreements with New Zealand.
- (2) Has he considered the implications for the Closer Economic Relations Agreement if there were a breakdown in the immigration arrangements between the two governments.
- (3) Can he specify the ramifications he was referring to when he stated on 19 September 2000 that it is inevitable that the NZ initiative will have significant longer term ramifications.
- (4) Will he threaten the immigration agreement between the two countries whenever an NZ Government decision becomes inconvenient for his own Government's policies.

2008 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What is the average period for approval of applications from newly married Australian citizens and permanent residents wishing to sponsor their spouse to come to Australia from the time the application is made to the approval time.
- (2) What is the average time for approval of applications for spouses coming from (a) Great Britain, (b) Ireland, (c) Western Europe, (d) Croatia, (e) Hungary, (f) Romania, (g) Baltic States, (h) Russian Federation, (i) Slovakia, (j) Czech Republic, (k) Slovenia, (l) Poland, (m) Turkey, (o) Israel, (q) Jordan, (r) Syria, (s) Egypt, (t) Iran, (u) Afghanistan, (v) Pakistan, (w) India, (x) Sri Lanka, (y) China, (z) Japan, (aa) Phillipines, (ab) South Korea, (ac) Thailand, (ad) Malaysia, (ae) Hong Kong, (af) Singapore, (ag) Indonesia, (ah) Fiji, (ai) Papua New Guinea, (aj) Samoa, (ak) Vanuatu, (al) USA, (am) Canada, (an) Latin America, (ao) Sudan, (ap) Ethiopia, (aq) Kenya, (ar) Zimbabwe, (as) South Africa, (at) Ghana, (au) Nigeria and (av) Mauritius.
- (3) Are there unjustifiable delays in the processing of applications, especially from certain countries; if not, why not.

2009 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Is it a fact that under the new Transitional Provision of the NZ Government it would take at least seven years before an individual granted a transitional visa could become an NZ citizen and therefore be able to enter Australia without a visa; if so, has he given the wrong public impression of the NZ Government's policy by claiming that it will undermine the Australian Government's current policies.
- (2) Is he concerned that his comments are being interpreted as being discriminatory against Pacific Island people and having a racist basis.

2010 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Are the Government's various visa requirements for skilled and extended family immigration designed to cater only for individuals coming from countries that have the educational and technical base to achieve high levels of skilling; if so, what is the Government's response to claims that the requirements discriminate against people coming from countries such as the Pacific Islands where skilling opportunities are rarely available.
- (2) Will he introduce immigration guidelines which permit a variation in skills assessment such that people coming from those countries where skilled training opportunities are less available, or not available at all, would be given the opportunity to enter Australia on the basis that they can complete their training in this country.
- (3) If not, will the Government introduce a special immigration program for people from the Pacific Islands, as currently exists in New Zealand, including a program to bring Pacific Islanders to Australia for skills training.
- (4) Have Australian parliamentary committees in the past recommended such a course of action.
- (5) Has the Government received representations from Pacific Island governments in relation to the availability of visas for Pacific Islanders; if so, what has been the Government's response to the representations.

*4 October 2000*

2011 **MR CREAN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) With regard to the Government's claims that tax avoidance through employee benefit schemes can be dealt with through the courts under existing law, how many court cases has the Government instituted in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999 and (e) 2000.
- (2) How many of these cases have been determined.
- (3) How much revenue has been returned to the Government as a result of these cases.

2012 **MR CREAN:** To ask the Treasurer—In light of his statement that the Government has received advice on tax avoidance through employee benefit schemes (*Hansard*, 6 September 2000, p. 18273), has any of that advice proposed the option of amending legislation.

- 2013 **MR CREAN:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) In respect of the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax, what was the 2000-01 Budget revenue estimate for the 2000-01 financial year.
  - (2) On what price per barrel of oil was this estimate based.
- 2014 **MR CREAN:** To ask the Treasurer—Did the Australian Taxation Office place an embargo on private binding rulings in respect of employee benefit tax schemes; if so, is that embargo still in place; if not, on what date was it lifted.
- 2015 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the cost, on an annual basis, of the Government's 30 per cent private health insurance rebate scheme.
  - (2) Are premium loadings for people who delay taking up private health insurance membership under the Lifetime Health Cover scheme covered by the Government's 30 per cent private health insurance premium rebate; if so, what is the projected effect on the total cost of the 30 per cent private health insurance rebate of the Lifetime Health Cover scheme premium loadings.
- 2016 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is he aware that the ATO deducted company tax payments from GST refunds around 1 September 2000.
  - (2) Is he also aware that this caused some companies to make a “double payment” of company tax as some companies had already paid their company tax when it was due.
  - (3) How many companies had their company tax payment taken from their GST refunds.
  - (4) How many companies has the ATO had to make refunds to as a result of the double payments.
  - (5) What is the total of the extra tax collected by the ATO as a result of the double payments.
  - (6) How long did it take the ATO to refund this money to small businesses.
  - (7) Was interest paid to the affected companies; if so, how much.
  - (8) Did the ATO notify affected companies that it would deduct company tax due from GST refunds; if not, why not.
  - (9) What measures have been taken to prevent this occurring again.
- 2017 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is it the case that some prime contractor transport operators are forcing some sub-contractors to accept commercially unconscionable rate cuts as a means for prime contractors to extract from sub-contractors lower rates in order to pass through savings under the new tax system to customers.
  - (2) Is it the case that reported GST freight rate cuts may be unfairly based as they do not take into account other cost increases such as fuel price rises which have increased by up to 47 per cent since last year.
  - (3) Is it the case that the impact of such unfairly based GST freight rate cuts may result in sub-contractors compromising maintenance and general safety

issues due to the requirement to accept commercially unsustainable rates to remain in the road transport industry.

- (4) Taking into account the application of the chain of responsibility principle to prime contractor transport operators and the capacity, in the case of a fatal accident involving a sub-contractor for example, for a prime contractor transport operator to be prosecuted due to their imposition of commercially unconscionable rates on sub-contractors, does the Government intend to take any action on these commercially unsustainable rates; if not, why not.
- (5) Is it a fact that police raids on a truck shop at Peak Hill near Parkes, NSW, and various locations in Victoria, Queensland and the ACT on 8 August 2000 led to the arrest of eight people including three truck drivers, allegedly involved in the production and distribution of methyl-amphetamine (speed).
- (6) Is it the case that freight rates are so low at the moment that employee and owner drivers may be forced to drive longer and faster and resort to the use of drugs to meet client demands.

2018 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Given the Government's support for the chain of responsibility principle in road transport, what is the Government doing to make the chain of responsibility a feature of commercial transport dealings and thereby stopping trucking companies from taking short cuts with safety, putting lives at risk and undercutting operators who work by the rules.
- (2) Is it the case that until the chain of responsibility concept becomes a feature of commercial dealings, transport prime contractors will continue to pressure sub-contractors to conform to schedules which cannot be met without breaking laws such as driving hours legislation, occupational health and safety legislation and industrial relations legislation.

2019 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What action does the Government intend to take in relation to (a) the failure by Western Australia to introduce the uniform national licensing and registration reform and (b) the proposal by the Northern Territory Government to introduce a licence demerit points scheme that excludes intrastate drivers who commit road safety offences.

2020 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Under which program did the government grant \$4.5m over three years to the Inland Marketing Corporation and for what purpose is the grant to be used.
- (2) Does the grant of \$4.5m reflect a change in Government policy from one of opposition to the Inland Marketing Corporation's proposed major airport development at Parkes, NSW, to one of support for the proposed Inland Marketing Corporation's proposed airport; if so, what was the basis of this change in policy.



5 October 2000

2021 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) For each of the last 10 years how many people (a) migrated to Australia from New Zealand and (b) migrated to New Zealand from Australia.
- (2) When did the Government implement the decision to require New Zealanders to wait two years before qualifying for welfare assistance, what was the justification for this policy decision and what was the revenue saving for Australia taxpayers.
- (3) For each of the last ten years (a) what percentage of New Zealand residents settling in Australia were not born in New Zealand, (b) in which countries were they born and (c) what was the length of their New Zealand residency before coming to Australia.
- (4) With respect to the New Zealand residents coming to Australia over the last ten years, has the Government compiled information on where they were born and their access to welfare assistance in Australia; if so, what is the nature of that data.
- (5) With respect to the New Zealand Government's decision to allow an additional 1,500 Pacific Islanders per year into New Zealand over the present 38,000 annual intake, how long are they required to remain in New Zealand before they are allowed to come to Australia.
- (6) Given the New Zealand Government's decision to grant an amnesty to illegal migrants in New Zealand, how long will those illegal migrants be required to wait before they are allowed to come to Australia and, if they do come to Australia, will they be required to adhere to Australia's immigration laws relating to family reunion and/or spouse visas or will partners and family members be able to join them in Australia by migrating via New Zealand.
- (7) Given that the New Zealand Immigration Minister has said that New Zealand will be making its own migration decisions irrespective of their consequences for Australian taxpayers, has the Australian Government acted to end the situation whereby the Australian Government pays a greater amount of welfare benefits to New Zealanders coming to Australia than the New Zealand Government pays to Australians going to New Zealand; if not, what outstanding policy differences exist.

2022 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1611, how did inviting all Coalition Members and Senators and only two Opposition Members and an Opposition Senator and one Democrat Senator to the Summit Dinner contribute to providing "all Australians with a better understanding of the needs and concerns of regional Australia", as stated in the aims of the Summit.
- (2) Did the Summit Reference Group consider inviting more community representatives and fewer politicians to the dinner.

- (3) Is the Government planning to hold another Regional Summit; if so, are any plans being made to include more community representatives and fewer politicians.
- (4) Under what criteria did the Government invite all Coalition Members and Senators, but not all Members of other political parties.

2023 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Is he aware of any incidents in which public hospitals have attempted to shift costs from State or Territory responsibility to the responsibility of the Federal Government; in particular, is he aware of any instances where attempts have been made to inappropriately classify patients as out patients in circumstances where they have been admitted to hospital.
- (2) What are the potential liabilities for (a) a medical practitioner and (b) a hospital administrator, that engages in that practice.
- (3) What are the consequences for (a) a medical practitioner and (b) a hospital administrator that encourages, induces, aids or abets such a practice.

2024 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Prime Minister—Has he committed the Government to preserving Government services in rural and regional Australia; if so, (a) does the commitment extend to services provided by Telstra and (b) would the outsourcing of Telstra maintenance services in rural and regional Australia be in keeping with the Government's commitment.

2025 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In light of the report made in the *Australian Financial Review* of 3 October 2000 in respect to the Speedrail project, what is the Government's estimate of the cost the Speedrail project.
- (2) What route is envisaged for the Speedrail project.
- (3) Is he able to say whether denying funding to the Speedrail project would undermine the viability of finding a site for the location of a further Sydney airport outside the Sydney Basin and airshed.

2026 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In light of statements made in the *Australian Financial Review* of 3 October 2000 in respect of the Western Sydney Orbital link, what is the Government's estimate of the cost of the Western Sydney Orbital Link.
- (2) What route is envisaged for the Western Sydney Orbital Link.
- (3) Is he able to say whether the Western Sydney Orbital Link funding is predicated on a second Sydney airport being located at Badgery's Creek.
- (4) Is he able to say whether assumptions about the rate of return on investment in the Western Sydney Orbital Link depend on estimated traffic flow arising from the location of a second Sydney airport at Badgery's Creek.

2027 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he able to say whether the 'loss of crucial support' for Speedrail as expressed in the *Australian Financial Review* of 3 October 2000 and the decision to commit a large amount of money to the Western Sydney Orbital Link mitigates against alternatives to Badgery's Creek as the site for Sydney's Second Airport.

- (2) Will he consider a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement on the site selection process that considers sites other than Badgery's Creek.
- (3) Is he able to say what is the relationship between Macquarie Bank and its subsidiaries and Infrastructure Trust of Australia.
- (4) Is he able to say what is the relationship between Macquarie Bank and its subsidiaries and (a) the Airport Motorway (b) the M5 Motorway and (c) the M2 Motorway projects, which are all located in Sydney.
- (5) Who has advised the Government in respect to the estimates of the costs of (a) The Western Sydney Orbital Link and (b) the Speedrail proposal.
- (6) Is he able to say whether Macquarie Bank has had any part in the cost estimations relied upon by the Government in influencing its transport policy agenda.

2028 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In 1999-2000 how many reservists were recruited into the (a) Navy (b) Army and (c) Air Force.
- (2) What are the 2000-01 recruitment targets for reservists for the (a) Navy (b) Army and (c) Air Force.

2029 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) What were the criteria for introducing the SM26 Postage Meters and who made the decision to introduce this particular model of postage meter, above other models.
- (2) Did any Member or Senator request the replacement of the existing franking machines
- (3) What has been the total cost to date of installing and maintaining the SM26 Postage Meters in Members' and Senators' electorate offices Australia wide.
- (4) How many problems regarding the functioning of the machines have so far been reported to his Department and how many machines have broken down completely.
- (5) Can he say whether the 2.5% saving that Australia Post will re-fund on postage accounts for those who use the machines is out weighed by the cost and inconvenience of the malfunctions and breakdowns of these machines.
- (6) How many years will it take the Commonwealth to recover the capital cost of replacing the existing franking machines at the estimated 2.5% per annum saving with the SM26.

2030 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—As of 31 June 2000, how many former Japanese Prisoners of War were still living in Australia.

*9 October 2000*

\*2031 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With respect to the Roads of National Importance program can he provide the requests for funding under this program submitted by each State and Territory Government for the (a) 1999/2000, (b) 2000/2001 and (c) 2001/2002 financial years.

- \*2032 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—What discussions took place between him, his staff, his Department, and/or the Office of the Employment Advocate concerning the Commonwealth Bank’s decision to offer Australian Workplace Agreements to Commonwealth Bank employees; when did these discussions occur; and who was involved.
- \*2033 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Can he provide a list of pharmacies that have been granted permission to act as Medicare agents within the electorate of Swan.
  - (2) Can he detail the requirements that must be met by pharmacies prior to being granted permission to act as a Medicare agent.
- \*2034 **MS KERNOT:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) What proportion of Centrelink offices have touch screens available.
  - (2) What proportion of Job Network members have touch screens available.
  - (3) What proportion of Job Network members have computers with internet access for the sole use of job seekers.
  - (4) What days and hours is on line access available at each Job Network provider.
  - (5) What proportion of Job Network providers have more than one internet access computer or touch screen.
- \*2035 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Sport and Tourism—
- (1) What is the expected increase in international tourism to Australia over the next ten years.
  - (2) Has her Department provided advice on the capacity of Sydney Airport to cope with the projected increase; if so, what are the details.
- \*2036 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 1196 (*Hansard*, 3 April 2000, page 14531), is he aware of the Bureau of Transport and Communications Economics estimate that the Alice Springs to Darwin railway has a benefit-cost ratio of 0.56:1; if so, does he regard this as an accurate estimate.
  - (2) For the (a) 1999-2000 and (b) 2000-01 Budgets, does the reporting of the Government’s expenditure on the Alice Springs to Darwin railway comply with its accrual accounting guidelines; if so, what are the details.
  - (3) Has the Government recorded (a) the expected outcomes and (b) a benefit-cost ratio for the Alice Springs to Darwin railway in its last two Budget statements; if so, what are the details.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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## **SPEAKER'S PANEL**

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

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## **COMMITTEES**

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

### **Standing**

*Pursuant to standing orders*

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

*Current inquiry:*

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, Mr Lawler, 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.

*Current inquiry:*

The development of high technology industries in regional Australia based on bioprospecting.

**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.

**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 Schultz, Senator George Campbell, Senator Denman, Senator Ferris, Senator Greig, Senator McGauran.

*Current inquiry:*

Law enforcement implications of new technology.

**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—
  - Proposed Reserve Bank of Australia Head Office building works.
  - 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 Faulkner, Senator Ferris, Senator Mason, Senator Murray.

*Current inquiries:*

- Electoral funding and disclosure.
- Integrity of the Electoral roll.

**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.
- National interest statement: Australian Government loan to Papua New Guinea.
- Review of the Department of Defence Annual Report 1998-99.

**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.*)

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## APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

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

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

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