

1998-1999-2000-2001

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 168

MONDAY, 5 MARCH 2001

*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 HUNGARY AND POLAND:** Report. (*Statements to conclude by 12.45 p.m.*)
- 2 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Review of Reserve Bank of Australia annual report 1999-2000: Interim report: The Wagga Wagga hearing. (*Statements to conclude by 1.15 p.m.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**Notices**

- 1 **MR BEAZLEY:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* to provide relief from the 1 February 2001 indexation of rates of customs duty applying to petroleum. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)
- 2 **MR BEAZLEY:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Excise Tariff Act 1921* to provide relief from the 1 February 2001 indexation of rates of excise duty applying to petroleum. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)
- 3 **MRS CROSIO:** To present a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment and administration of a scheme to guarantee the payment of wages and certain other liabilities owed to employees in the event of company insolvency, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)
- 4 **MR ANDREN:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to superannuation for parliamentarians, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Time allowed—15 minutes.*)

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

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

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

- (1) records its dismay and sorrow at the horrific Christmas/New Year death toll on our nation's roads, particularly in New South Wales and records its sympathy to the family and friends of those people who have died or been seriously injured;
- (2) recognises the importance of maintaining an efficient and safe road transport network in both city and rural areas, as a vital component of lowering the road toll;
- (3) calls on all State and Territory governments to match the Commonwealth's significant increase in road funding;
- (4) acknowledges the Federal Government's increasing commitment to the national road network via its \$1.2 billion *Roads to Recovery* funding package; and
- (5) recognises the importance of on-going funding commitments to further improve the national highway system. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time.*)



GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the day

- 1 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Question—That grievances be noted (*under standing order 106*).
- 2 **AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL BILL 2000:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 544 (*from 8 February 2001*).
- 3 **AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2000:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 545 (*from 8 February 2001*).
- 4 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (UNFAIR DISMISSALS) BILL 1998 [NO. 2] (Minister for Defence):** Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 1 March 2001—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Bevis, viz.—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "the Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to provide for:*
 - (1) increased job security for all Australian workers;
 - (2) protection for workers from harsh, unfair or unreasonable dismissal, regardless of the size of the business;
 - (3) ready access for all workers to an affordable and fair industrial umpire to deal with unfair, unreasonable or harsh dismissal; and
 - (4) repeal of paragraph 170CC(1)(a) of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* to give workers engaged under a contract of employment for a specified period of time or a specified task protection from unfair, unreasonable or harsh dismissal".

- 5 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (NEW ZEALAND CITIZENS) BILL 2001** (*Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 February 2001—Mr Horne*).
- *6 **AIRCRAFT NOISE LEVY COLLECTION AMENDMENT BILL 2001** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 1 March 2001—Mr Bevis*).
- 7 **PIG INDUSTRY BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 November 2000—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson*).
- 8 **CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT AND REPEAL (INTERNATIONAL TRADE MODERNISATION) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 9 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 10 **CUSTOMS DEPOT LICENSING CHARGES AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 11 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (EXCISE ARRANGEMENTS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 12 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (INTEGRITY OF REGIONAL MIGRATION SCHEMES) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 November 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 13 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2000-2001** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 February 2001—Dr Lawrence*) on the motion of Mr Fahey—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Tanner, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns this Government for its:*
 - (1) failure to address the significant investment needs in the areas of education and health and the provision of social and employment services since coming to Government;
 - (2) blowout in the cost of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and the threat this presents to the sustainability of Australia’s subsidised medicines scheme;
 - (3) belated and inadequate attempts to remedy the chronic underfunding of research and innovation;
 - (4) mismanagement of the Defence Budget;
 - (5) refusal to remove the effects of the sale of the rest of Telstra from the Budget aggregates consistent with the resolution of the Senate of 16 March

2000, the findings of the Besley report and the wishes of the leader of the National Party;

- (6) mishandling of the move to accrual accounting by providing complex, confusing and uninformative budget documents;
 - (7) wasteful and profligate spending on poor quality programs to buy Democrat support for its unfair GST;
 - (8) failure to identify in the Budget papers the full cost of GST collection and implementation;
 - (9) failure to put in place arrangements that deliver its guarantee that no Australian will be worse off as a result of the GST package; and
 - (10) bungling of the Business Activity Statement which has sent many small businesses to the wall”.
- 14 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2000-2001** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 November 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 15 **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 2000-2001** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 November 2000—Mr Horne*).

Notice

1 **MR REITH:** To move—That:

- (1) in relation to any message from the Senate transmitting a resolution from the Senate and seeking the concurrence of the House, consideration of the message shall be made an order of the day for the next sitting, unless a Minister moves an alternative time for consideration of the message; and
- (2) the terms of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Notice given 28 February 2001.*)

Orders of the day—*continued*

- 16 **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*).
- 17 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (PARALLEL IMPORTATION) BILL 2001** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 February 2001—Mr Horne*).
- *18 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT BILL 2001** (*Minister for Forestry and Conservation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 1 March 2001—Mr Bevis*).
- 19 **NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (SIMPLIFIED TAX SYSTEM) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 20 **SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 August 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).

- 21 **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*).
- 22 **FAMILY LAW LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION) BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 April 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 23 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Foreign Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 24 **COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 November 2000—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 25 **SAFETY, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Defence*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 26 **OCCUPATION HEALTH AND SAFETY (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Defence*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 27 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (MIGRATION AGENTS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 November 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 28 **POSTAL SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 April 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 29 **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*).
- 30 **HUMAN RIGHTS (MANDATORY SENTENCING OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS) BILL 1999** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 15 March 2000*).
- 31 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS) BILL 2000**: Consideration of Senate's amendment (*from 8 February 2001*).
- 32 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 8 November 2000*).
- 33 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (DEBT RECOVERY) BILL 2000**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 29 November 2000*).
- 34 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1999**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 473 (*from 1 November 2000*).
- 35 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendment (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 36 **CUSTOMS AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 7 March 2000*).

- 37 **NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) BILL 1998:** Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 8 March 2000*).
- 38 **TELSTRA:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 550 (*from 27 February 2001*).
- 39 **PRICE OF PETROL:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 540 (*from 7 February 2001*).
- 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 **IMMIGRATION DETENTION PROCEDURES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 February 2001—Mr Williams*) on the motion of Mr Ruddock—That the House take note of the papers.
- 48 **2000 REDISTRIBUTION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY INTO ELECTORAL DIVISIONS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 49 **TREATIES—JOINT COMMITTEE—20TH REPORT—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 50 **OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS TRUST—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 51 **CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT ON COMPANY LAW REVIEW ACT 1998—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 52 **TAX EXPENDITURES STATEMENT 2000—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 53 **FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW BOARD—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 54 **COPYRIGHT AGENCY LIMITED—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 55 **PETROLEUM (SUBMERGED LANDS) LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 2000—REPLACEMENT EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 February 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **COUNCIL FOR ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 57 **ILO CONVENTION 182—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 58 **REGISTERED HEALTH BENEFITS ORGANISATIONS—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 59 **SYDNEY AIRPORTS CORPORATION LTD—STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT 2000-2005—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **NATIONAL COMPETITION COUNCIL—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 61 **AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 62 **AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 31 October 2000—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 63 **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.
- 64 **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.

- 65 **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.
- 66 **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.
- 67 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Slipper*):
- 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*).
 - Customs Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2001)—*moved 28 February 2001*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Horne*).
 - 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*).
- 68 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr McGauran*):
- Excise Tariff Proposals Nos. 1 and 2 (2001)—*moved 8 February 2001*—Resumption of debate (*Dr Lawrence*).
- *69 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Costello*):
- Customs Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2001)—*moved 1 March 2001*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Crean, in continuation*).
 - Excise Tariff Proposal No. 3 (2001)—*moved 1 March 2001*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Crean, in continuation*).
- 70 **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 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 the next sitting Monday after 5 March 2001.*)
- 2 **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 the next sitting Monday after 5 March 2001.*)
- 3 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 4 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 5 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

- 6 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 7 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 8 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 9 **EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—SHARED ENDEAVOURS: EMPLOYEE SHARE OWNERSHIP IN AUSTRALIA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 October 2000—Dr Nelson, in continuation*) on the motion of Dr Nelson—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 5 March 2001.*)
- 10 **MIGRATION—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 October 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 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 11 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—35TH REPORT—AGREEMENT FOR CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 October 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 5 March 2001.*)
- 12 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT LOAN TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 October 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 4 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)

- 13 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—36TH REPORT—TWO TREATIES TABLED ON 15 AUGUST 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 October 2000—Mr A. P. Thomson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr A. P. Thomson—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 14 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—DEFENCE ACQUISITION PROJECTS; DEBT MANAGEMENT; PLASMA FRACTIONATION: REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS 1999-2000—SECOND QUARTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 1 November 2000—Mr Charles, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Charles—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 15 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—CONTRACT MANAGEMENT IN THE AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SERVICE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 November 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 5 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 16 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REVIEW OF AUSTRALIAN PRUDENTIAL REGULATION AUTHORITY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 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 5 March 2001.*)
- 17 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND BELIEF—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 November 2000—Mr Nugent, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Nugent—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 18 **LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ENFORCEMENT OF COPYRIGHT IN AUSTRALIA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 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 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 19 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—36TH REPORT—SIX TREATIES TABLED ON 10 OCTOBER 2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 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 5 March 2001.*)

- 20 **PRIVILEGES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON STATUS OF RECORDS AND CORRESPONDENCE OF MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 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 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 21 **CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON FEES ON ELECTRONIC AND TELEPHONE BANKING—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 2001—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 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 22 **ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—CO-ORDINATING CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 February 2001—Mr Causley, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Causley—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 5 March 2001.*)



PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—*continued*

Notices—*continued*

- 1 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the importance of the construction of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System to the economic and social development of Western Sydney;
 - (2) acknowledges the importance of road transport access that diminishes interference with road users in local communities;
 - (3) recognises that in heavily developed regions such as Western Sydney, the speedy access by road transport to local business developments is vital in assisting productivity and business growth;
 - (4) notes the policy commitment of successive governments to build the Western Sydney Orbital Road System;
 - (5) acknowledges that only minimum funding has ever been set aside for the building of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System and that conditions of construction have included the building of a second airport at Badgerys Creek; and
 - (6) calls on the Federal Government to listen to and act upon the many calls from affected residents, business groups, business development committees, local government spokespersons and other interested parties in Western Sydney and urgently provide sufficient funding to enable the NSW

Government to combine in partnership with the Commonwealth to commence immediate construction of the whole Western Sydney Orbital Road System. (*Notice given 14 August 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 5 March 2001.*)

2 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 the next sitting Monday after 5 March 2001.*)

3 MR PRICE: To move—

- (1) That a Standing Committee on Appropriations and Staffing be appointed to inquire into:
 - (a) proposals for the annual estimates and the additional estimates for the House of Representatives;
 - (b) proposals to vary the staff structure of the House of Representatives, and staffing and recruitment policies; and
 - (c) such other matters as are referred to it by the House;
- (2) That the committee shall:
 - (a) in relation to estimates—
 - (i) determine the amounts for inclusion in the parliamentary appropriation bills for the annual and the additional appropriations; and
 - (ii) report to the House upon its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill; and
 - (b) in relation to staffing—
 - (i) make recommendations to the Speaker; and

- (ii) report to the House on its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill;
 - (3) That the committee consist of the Speaker and 11 other members, 6 members to be nominated by the Chief Government Whip or Whips and 5 members to be nominated by the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips or any independent Member;
 - (4) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair;
 - (5) That the committee elect a deputy chairman who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chairman at that meeting;
 - (6) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine;
 - (7) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;
 - (8) That the quorum of a subcommittee be a majority of the members of that subcommittee;
 - (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;
 - (10) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records;
 - (11) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place;
 - (12) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House;
 - (13) That the committee have leave to report from time to time; and
 - (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Notice given 9 October 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 4 **MR PRICE:** To move—
- (1) That standing order 28B be amended by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (b):
 - (ba) annual and additional estimates contained in the appropriation bills presented to the House shall stand referred for consideration by Members of the relevant committee (as determined in accordance with

the provisions of paragraph (b) for the consideration of annual reports), and, for the purposes of this consideration:

- (i) six Members of each committee, determined by the committee in each case, shall consider the estimates;
- (ii) the Members of the committee selected to consider the estimates shall meet with Members of the relevant Senate legislation committee so that the Members and Senators may meet together for the purposes of considering the estimates;
- (iii) members of the relevant House and Senate committees, when meeting together to consider estimates, shall choose a Member or a Senator to chair the joint meetings;
- (iv) the provisions of Senate standing order 26 shall, to the extent that they are applicable, apply to the consideration of estimates under this paragraph, and
- (v) that, upon the completion of joint meetings at which evidence is received or written answers or additional information considered, it shall then be a matter for the Members of the relevant committee to consider the terms of any report to the House on the estimates.

- (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly. (*Notice given 9 October 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

- 5 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 94 to read as follows:

Closure of Member

94 A motion may be made that a Member who is speaking, except a Member giving a notice of motion or formally moving the terms of a motion allowed under the standing orders or speaking to a motion of dissent (from any ruling of the Speaker under standing order 100), “be not further heard”, and such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate. (*Notice given 9 October 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

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

Presentation of petitions

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

- (a) in respect of each petition, the petitioner, or one of the petitioners, may present the petition to the House by standing at the Bar of the House and reading to the House the prayer of the petition, and
- (b) where a petitioner is not able to present the petition in accordance with paragraph (a) of this standing order, the Member who has lodged the petition may present it to the House by reading to the House the prayer of the petition. (*Notice given 9 October 2000. Notice will be removed from the*

Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)

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

Questions to committee chairs

143A Questions may be put to a Member in his or her capacity as Chair of a committee of the House, or of a joint committee, in connection with the work or duties of the committee in question. *(Notice given 9 October 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)*

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

Questions without notice—Time limits

145A During question time:

- (a) the asking of each question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each question may not exceed 4 minutes;
 - (b) the asking of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute; and
 - (c) the time taken to make and determine points of order is not to be regarded as part of the time for questions and answers. *(Notice given 9 October 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)*
- 9 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 275A be omitted and the following standing order be substituted:

Statements by Members

275A Notwithstanding standing order 275, when the Main Committee meets on a Thursday, the business before the Committee shall be interrupted at 1 p.m. and the Chair shall call for statements by Members. A Member, other than a Minister, may be called by the Chair to make a statement for a period not exceeding 3 minutes. The period for Members' statements may continue for a maximum of 1 hour. Any business under discussion at 1 p.m. and interrupted under the provisions of this standing order shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting. *(Notice given 9 October 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)*

- 10 **MRS CROSIO:** To move—That this House:

- (1) promotes Australian civic and citizenship values during the Centenary of Federation year 2001 by repealing section 17 of the Citizenship Act to ensure Australian citizens over the age of 18 do not lose their Australian citizenship on the acquisition of citizenship of another country;
- (2) recognises that section 17 of the Citizenship Act denies Australian born citizens the benefits and privileges that come from holding two or more citizenships;
- (3) acknowledges that countries such as New Zealand, the UK, Ireland, Canada, France, USA, Italy, South Africa, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Brazil and

the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia allow their citizens to obtain another citizenship without losing their original citizenship; and

- (4) calls on the Government to repeal section 17 of the Citizenship Act to allow Australian born citizens the same rights as those naturalised Australian citizens who may hold dual citizenship. (*Notice given 27 November 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

11 MS HALL: To move—That this House:

- (1) condemns the Government for failing to ensure that residents in nursing homes receive an adequate standard of personal medical care;
- (2) notes the concerns of the families of nursing home residents and workers in the aged care industry about the impact of the Government's aged care policy on nursing home standards and care; and
- (3) calls on the Government to review its aged care policy to ensure that the wellbeing of nursing homes is paramount and not secondary to government savings. (*Notice given 29 November 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

12 MS HALL: To move—That this House:

- (1) condemns the Government for agreeing to allow a French nuclear-powered attack submarine to visit Australia in March 2001;
- (2) urges the Government to prohibit the visit; and
- (3) calls on the Government to make a commitment to keeping Australian ports free of nuclear-powered and armed vessels. (*Notice given 29 November 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

13 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 30 November 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

14 DR SOUTHCOTT: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that amongst the OECD, Australia is ranked:

- (a) 3rd in information and communications technology expenditure as a percentage of GDP;
 - (b) 3rd in secure servers for e-commerce
 - (c) 3rd in internet multimedia content
 - (d) 6th in personal computer ownership; and
 - (e) 8th in total online population;
- (2) notes Canberra has more adults accessing the internet than Washington; Darwin and Perth have more than Atlanta; Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart more than Los Angeles; and Brisbane and Adelaide are equal with New York;
 - (3) notes our take up rates of cellular phones are amongst the highest in the world;
 - (4) notes Australia's growth and increase in productivity during the 1990s exceeded that of the US;
 - (5) notes the financial services sector is greater in size than the mining and agriculture sectors combined, as a percentage of GDP; and
 - (6) rejects the view Australia represents an old economy. (*Notice given 5 December 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 15 **MR EMERSON:** To move—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges that equality of opportunity is fundamental to a fair society and that a high-quality education for all young people is necessary for achieving equality of opportunity;
 - (2) agrees that many young people in disadvantaged communities are being denied a high-quality education and therefore an equal opportunity in life;
 - (3) calls on the Government to implement needs-based funding policies for government and non-government schools;
 - (4) endorses early intervention, including reading recovery programs, in remedying educational disadvantage;
 - (5) supports government and non-government schools in disadvantaged communities achieving educational excellence; and
 - (6) expresses its alarm that Federal Government spending on education as a proportion of GDP is no higher than in the early 1990s. (*Notice given 7 December 2000. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 16 **MR BAIRD:** To move—That this House welcomes the recent moves made by the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea towards achieving reconciliation and eventual reunification, and in particular:
- (1) commends the Minister for Foreign Affairs for his great interest and personal effort with regard to the Korean Peninsula, culminating in his recent visit to North Korea;
 - (2) congratulates President Kim Dae-jung on being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for the Year 2000;

- (3) notes the positive impact of the two Koreas marching as one at the Opening Ceremony of the Sydney Olympic Games; and
- (4) notes the importance of these factors in improving the security environment of the Korean Peninsula. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

17 **MR EDWARDS:** To move—That the House, noting that the people of Australia:

- (1) are entitled to expect that Members of the House will approach their work in the House in a straightforward and business-like manner such as would be seen in many other workplaces; and
- (2) will judge Members by the quality of their contributions to the work of the House rather than by the nature of their dress;

is of the view that it should be left to the good sense of Members to judge what clothing they should wear in the Chamber (although it considers that male Members should wear a shirt and tie), and refers to the Procedure Committee the task of formulating a suitable short statement to cover dress standards for Members and those who use the galleries of the House so that the statement can be put to the House for its consideration. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

18 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the following amendments to the standing orders be made:

[*Amendment to implement It's your House recommendation 4*]

- (1) At the end of standing order 119 add:
 - (d) Unless a motion is moved under subparagraph (c)(i) the petition shall stand referred to the relevant standing committee for any inquiry the committee may wish to make.

[*Amendment to implement It's your House recommendation 9*]

- (2) New standing order 148A be inserted:

Questions from citizens

148A A Member may give notice of a question in terms proposed by a person who resides in the Member's electoral division. The following conditions shall apply to notices of questions given under this sessional order:

- (a) A Member shall satisfy himself or herself that the person proposing the question resides within the Member's electoral division.
- (b) The question shall show the name of the person who proposed the question.
- (c) A Member may not give notice of more than 25 questions in a calendar year.
- (d) Questions shall conform with the standing orders.
- (e) Provided the foregoing provisions are met a Member must give notice of every question proposed to him or her up to the limit of 25 per year.

[Amendments to implement It's your House recommendation 21]

- (3) Standing order 40 be amended by omitting '12.30 p.m.' (twice occurring) and substituting '10 a.m.'

- (4) Standing order 101

Omit the routine of business for *Monday*, substitute:

1. Presentation of, and statements on, reports from parliamentary committees and delegations. 2. Orders of the day for the resumption of debate on motions moved in connection with committee and delegation reports. 3. Private Members' business (debate to be interrupted at 12.15 p.m.). 4. Grievance debate (debate to continue for 1 hour and 20 minutes). 5. Presentation of petitions. 6. Members' statements. 7. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.). 8. Notices and orders of the day.

- (5) Standing order 106A

Omit 'At 1.45 p.m. on each sitting Monday the Speaker shall interrupt private Members' business in order that statements by Members can be called on.', substitute 'Following presentation of petitions on each sitting Monday the Speaker shall call on statements by Members.'

[Amendment to implement It's your House recommendation 22]

- (6) Omit standing order 353, substitute the following:

Report and minutes presented

353 The report of a committee, together with the minutes of the proceedings, shall be presented to the House by a member of the committee.

Provided that a committee may resolve to do either or both of the following:

- (a) if the House is not sitting when a committee has completed a report of an inquiry, the committee may send the report to the Speaker, or in the absence or unavailability of the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker. Upon receipt of the report by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker:
- (i) the publication of the report is authorised by this standing order; and
 - (ii) the Speaker or Deputy Speaker, as the case may be, is authorised to give directions for the printing and circulation of the report.

The report shall be presented to the House in accordance with this standing order as soon as possible.

- (b) to seek the approval of the Speaker, or in the absence or unavailability of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, to publish a summary version of its findings on a day prior to the report being presented to the House. If the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker approves the request:
- (i) the publication of the summary version of the committee's findings is authorised by this standing order; and
 - (ii) Members of the House shall be advised of the publication and given access to the text of the document.

[Amendments to implement It's your House recommendation 26]

- (7) At the end of standing order 102B add 'The order of the day for resumption of debate on a motion to take note of a report moved pursuant to this

standing order shall be deemed to have been referred to the Main Committee for consideration.’

- (8) At the end of standing order 354 add ‘An order of the day for resumption of debate on a motion to take note of a report moved pursuant to this standing order shall be deemed to have been referred to the Main Committee for consideration.’

[Amendment to implement It’s your House recommendation 27]

- (9) New standing order 354A be inserted:

Government responses to committee reports

354A (a) The Government shall prepare and present to the House no later than four months after the presentation of a report from a House of Representatives or joint committee, a response to the recommendations contained in the report. This provision does not apply to reports from the following committees: House, Library, Members’ Interests, Privileges, Publications (except for reports on inquiries), Selection and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works. If the Government does not consider it appropriate to respond to a particular report, it shall inform the House giving reasons for its decision.

(b) The Speaker shall prepare and present to the House a schedule listing government responses to committee reports which have been presented and reports presented to which responses have not been presented. The schedule shall be presented by the Speaker twice in each calendar year or as often as the Speaker deems appropriate.

[Amendment to implement It’s your House recommendation 29]

- (10) New paragraph (ba) be inserted in standing order 324:

(ba) A standing committee appointed pursuant to paragraph (a) may carry out such activities as it sees fit to inform itself of issues within its portfolio area. The committee may report to the House on these activities. Standing order 340 does not apply to activities conducted pursuant to this paragraph. (Notice given 6 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)

19 MR PRICE: To move—

- (1) That, in their dealings with witnesses, committees of the House shall observe the following procedures:
- (a) A witness shall be invited to attend a committee meeting to give evidence. Whether or not a witness was previously invited to appear, a witness shall be summoned to appear only when the committee has made a decision that the circumstances warrant the issue of a summons.
- (b) When a committee desires that a witness produce documents or records relevant to the committee’s inquiry, the witness shall be invited to do so. Whether or not an invitation to produce documents or records has previously been made, an order that documents or records be produced shall be made only when the committee has made a decision that the circumstances warrant such an order.

- (c) A witness shall be given notice of a meeting at which he or she is to appear, and shall be supplied with a copy of the committee's terms of reference, an indication of the matters expected to be dealt with during the appearance and a copy of this resolution or a summary of its provisions. Where appropriate, a witness may be supplied with a transcript of relevant evidence already taken in public.
- (d) A witness may be given the opportunity to make a submission in writing before appearing to give oral evidence.
- (e) A witness shall be given reasonable access to any documents or records that the witness has provided to a committee.
- (f) A witness shall be offered, before giving evidence, the opportunity to make application, before or during the hearing of the witness's evidence, for any or all of the witness's evidence to be heard *in camera*, and shall be invited to give reasons for any such application. The witness may give reasons *in camera*. If the application is not granted, the witness shall be notified of reasons for that decision.
- (g) Before giving any evidence *in camera* a witness shall be informed that it is within the power of the committee to publish or present to the House all or part of that evidence, and that the House has the authority to order the production and publication of undisclosed evidence. Should the committee decide to publish or present to the House all or part of the evidence taken *in camera*, the witness shall be advised in advance of the publication. A member, in a protest or dissent added to a report, shall not disclose evidence taken *in camera* unless so authorised by the committee.
- (h) The Chair of a committee shall take care to ensure that all questions put to witnesses are relevant to the committee's inquiry and that the information sought by those questions is necessary for the purpose of that inquiry.
- (i) When a witness objects to answering any question put to him or her on any ground, including the grounds that it is not relevant, or that it may tend to incriminate him or her, he or she shall be invited to state the ground upon which he or she objects to answering the question. The committee may then consider, *in camera*, whether it will insist upon an answer to the question. The committee shall have regard to the relevance of the question to the committee's inquiry and the importance to the inquiry of the information sought by the question. If the committee determines that it requires an answer to the question, the witness shall be informed of that determination, and of the reasons for it, and shall be required to answer the question *in camera*, unless the committee resolves that it is essential that it be answered in public. When a witness declines to answer a question to which a committee has required an answer, the committee may report the facts to the House.
- (j) When a committee has reason to believe that evidence about to be given may reflect on a person, the committee shall give consideration to hearing that evidence *in camera*.

- (k) When a witness gives evidence which reflects upon a person, the committee may provide a reasonable opportunity for the person reflected upon to have access to that evidence and to respond to that evidence by written submission or appearance before the committee.
 - (l) A witness may make application to be accompanied by counsel or an adviser or advisers and to consult counsel or the adviser(s) in the course of the meeting at which he or she appears. If such an application is not granted, the witness shall be notified of reasons for that decision. A witness accompanied by counsel or an adviser or advisers shall be given reasonable opportunity to consult with counsel or the adviser(s) during a meeting at which he or she appears.
 - (m) An employee of a department or executive agency shall not be asked to give opinions on matters of policy, and shall be given reasonable opportunity to refer questions asked of him or her to a higher level manager or to the appropriate Minister.
 - (n) Witnesses shall be treated with respect and dignity at all times.
 - (o) Reasonable opportunity shall be afforded to witnesses to request corrections in the transcript of their evidence and to put before a committee additional written material supplementary to their evidence. Witnesses may also request the opportunity to give further oral evidence.
 - (p) Where a committee has any reason to believe that any person has been improperly influenced in respect of evidence which has been or may be given before the committee, or has been subjected to or threatened with any penalty or injury in respect of any evidence given or in respect of prospective evidence, the committee shall take all reasonable steps to ascertain the facts of the matter. Where the committee considers that the facts disclose that a person may have been improperly influenced or subjected to or threatened with penalty or injury in respect of evidence which may be or has been given before the committee, the committee shall report the facts and its conclusions to the House.
- (2) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
 - (3) That this resolution continue in force unless and until amended or rescinded by the House in this or a subsequent Parliament. (*Notice given 6 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

20 **MRS D. M. KELLY:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the Coalition Government's commitment to renewable energy;
- (2) notes the quality production of ethanol in Australia;
- (3) notes the use of ethanol as a blend with motor spirit and the advantages this offers in terms of:
 - (a) competitive cost of production;
 - (b) opportunities for development;
 - (c) environmental benefits;

- (d) motoring efficiency; and
 - (e) import replacement;
- (4) notes the use of ethanol blends in other countries; and
- (5) urges the Government to continue its support for development of renewable energy resources and trusts that the use and production of ethanol will continue to be progressed. (*Notice given 7 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 21 **MR SERCOMBE:** To move—That, in the light of the strong views of many Australians, and particularly those in provincial and rural areas, the House calls on the Government to:
- (1) clearly indicate that it will not proceed with the further privatisation of Telstra; and
 - (2) remove the proceeds of further privatisation from its Forward Estimates. (*Notice given 26 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 22 **MR DANBY:** To move—That this House:
- (1) expresses its support for the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecution's determination that there is no evidence to suggest that the 1996 Port Arthur shootings was a conspiracy;
 - (2) condemns those who continue to perpetuate the Port Arthur shootings conspiracy for political purposes, and thus continue to hurt the survivors and the relatives and friends of the victims; and
 - (3) calls upon One Nation to publicly disassociate itself from those who continue to perpetuate the Port Arthur shootings conspiracy. (*Notice given 27 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 23 **MR KATTER:** To present a bill for an Act to amend the *Excise Tariff Act 1921*, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 27 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 24 **MR KATTER:** To present a bill for an Act to amend the *Excise Tariff Act 1921*, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 27 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 25 **MR PRICE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) welcomes the announcement that the Federal Government will proceed with the construction of the Western Sydney Orbital, the missing link of the National Highway;
 - (2) notes that the Federal Government will only be spending \$300 million;
 - (3) notes that the people of Western Sydney who already pay a toll on the M2, M4 and M5, will now have a new \$5 approximate toll for the Orbital; and
 - (4) notes that the proposed toll will be the only toll on the National Highway. (*Notice given 28 February 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice*

Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)

Orders of the day

- 1 **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 5 March 2001.*)
- 2 **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 5 March 2001.*)
- 3 **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 5 March 2001.*)
- 4 **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 5 March 2001.*)
- 5 **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 the next sitting Monday after 5 March 2001.*)
- 6 **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 the next sitting Monday after 5 March 2001.*)
- 7 **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 the next sitting Monday after 5 March 2001.*)
- 8 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 9 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 10 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 11 **BURMA**: Resumption of debate (*from 9 October 2000*) on the motion of Mr Edwards—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 12 **SUPERANNUATION GUARANTEE (ADMINISTRATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Mr K. J. Thomson*): Second reading (*from 30 October 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

- 13 **JOB NETWORK MONITORING AUTHORITY BILL 2000** (*Ms Kernot*): Second reading (*from 30 October 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 14 **PARALLEL IMPORTING**: Resumption of debate (*from 30 October 2000*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—That this 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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 15 **JOHN SIMPSON KIRKPATRICK**: Resumption of debate (*from 30 October 2000*) on the motion of Ms Hall—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 16 **RESTAURANT AND CAFÉ INDUSTRY**: Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2000—Mr Gibbons, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms Gambaro—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 17 **INTERNET VOTING**: Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2000—Mr C. P. Thompson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Ripoll—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 18 **HYDROGEN ECONOMY:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2000*) on the motion of Mr Charles—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 19 **OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2000—Mrs D. M. Kelly, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs Crosio—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 20 **AUDITOR OF PARLIAMENTARY ALLOWANCES AND ENTITLEMENTS BILL 2000** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 27 November 2000*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 21 **HORTICULTURAL INDUSTRY**: Resumption of debate (*from 27 November 2000—Mrs Gallus, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs Gallus—That this House:
- (1) recognises the contribution to Australia’s export earnings of the Australian horticultural industry and its potential for future growth;
 - (2) notes that recent shortfalls in horticultural labour have caused delays in harvesting crops and, in some cases, spoilage of the harvest;
 - (3) acknowledges the need for the horticultural industry to have access to an adequate labour force;
 - (4) promotes recognition of the National Harvest Trail to encourage Australians to take on harvest work in different regions throughout the year;
 - (5) facilitates promotion of the Harvest Trail in domestic and international publications;
 - (6) commends the report by the National Harvest Trail Working Group entitled “Harvesting Australia”; and
 - (7) calls on the Government to take up the recommendations of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 22 **CASUAL EMPLOYMENT**: Resumption of debate (*from 27 November 2000*) on the motion of Mr Sawford—That this House acknowledges the grave dangers inherent in the dramatic rise of precarious casual employment in Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 23 **RAIL**: Resumption of debate (*from 27 November 2000—Mr Gibbons, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr St Clair—That this House:
- (1) recognises the importance of an efficient and well networked rail system to the Australian economy;
 - (2) urges private and government capital investment to ensure more freight is carried by rail to reduce the extent of road transport as an issue of public road safety; and
 - (3) applauds the initiative of the Government in the abolition of diesel fuel excise for rail use as a significant element in the reduction of rail freight cost

thereby encouraging greater use of rail. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

24 **HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 2000*) on the motion of Mr Wilkie—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

25 **ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN CONFLICT:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 2000*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—That this House:

- (1) expresses its dismay at the ongoing violence and incitement to violence in the Middle East and calls on both sides to immediately stop all violent acts and for the restoration of calm to the region;
- (2) takes note of the far-reaching and courageous proposals made by Israel's Prime Minister, Ehud Barak, at Camp David and its disappointment that this historic opportunity was not successfully seized by all parties to the peace process;
- (3) calls on all partners to resume negotiations without the threat of violence and without the premature announcement of unilateral declarations;
- (4) expresses its grief for the innocent lives lost on both sides and condemns the unacceptable inclusion of children in violent activities on the front line and expresses the hope that violence will be stopped in accordance with the Sharm el-Sheik agreement;
- (5) hopes that the conflict will be resolved in the framework of agreement and compromise;
- (6) calls on the leadership of the Israeli and Palestinian people to restore trust and confidence in order to pave the way for the resumption of peace negotiations;
- (7) calls on all countries surrounding the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian territories to ensure their sovereign territory not be used to promote aggression into an already turbulent area; and

- (8) believes that peaceful coexistence is the only option for both Israelis and Palestinians now and into the future. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 26 **ORDINARY SEAMAN TEDDY SHEEAN:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 2000*) on the motion of Mr Sidebottom—That this House:
- (1) recognises the extraordinary deeds of Ordinary Seaman Teddy Sheean and his crew mates upon the sinking of HMAS *Armidale* on 1 December 1942 off the Timor coast;
 - (2) implores the Government to award a posthumous Victoria Cross of Australia to Ordinary Seaman Teddy Sheean to properly recognise his courageous deeds on 1 December 1942; and
 - (3) encourages the Government to establish a mechanism to address outstanding issues and anomalies in the military honours system such as recognising the courageous deeds of people such as Ordinary Seaman Teddy Sheean on 1 December 1942. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 27 **EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BILL 2001** (*Mr Bevis*): Second reading (*from 26 February 2001*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 28 **SCHOOL FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 2001** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 26 February 2001*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)
- 29 **STROKE:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 February 2001*) on the motion of Mr K. J. Andrews—That this House:
- (1) notes that stroke is the second highest cause of death in Australia;
 - (2) notes that there has been a slowing down of the decline in stroke death rates in recent years;
 - (3) notes that the number of people dying from stroke and those surviving with a permanent disability is likely to increase in the future;
 - (4) notes that the risk factors for stroke include high blood pressure, tobacco smoking, heavy alcohol consumption, high blood cholesterol, being overweight, and insufficient physical activity;
 - (5) notes that the length of stay in hospital for stroke is twice as long as that for other cardiovascular conditions;
 - (6) notes that while more women are affected by stroke, the proportion of men who suffer a stroke is 30 per cent higher than for women, and that for people aged 25-64, those from the lowest socio-economic group are twice as likely to die from stroke as those in the highest socioeconomic group with indigenous death rates from stroke in the same age group being eight times the rate in the rest of the population; and
 - (7) urges the Government to continue to support public awareness about the high risk factors associated with stroke. (*Order of the day will be removed*)

from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.)

30 **TAX AVOIDANCE SCHEMES:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 February 2001*) on the motion of Mr Emerson—That this House:

- (1) expresses its alarm at large-scale tax avoidance by unscrupulous company executives;
- (2) expresses its disappointment that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has issued a series of favourable private binding rulings in support of schemes that the ATO itself has likened to the infamous bottom of the harbour schemes;
- (3) condemns the Treasurer for refusing to legislate against the abuse of executive share schemes and for obfuscating on promised legislation to crack down on tax avoidance through the use of family trusts; and
- (4) calls on the Government to act against tax avoidance schemes wherever they emerge, using both legislative and judicial means. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

31 **PROPOSED PARLIAMENTARY ARMED FORCES SCHEME:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 February 2001*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That this House:

- (1) recognising the increasing demands being placed upon Australia's armed forces;
- (2) welcoming the widespread community support for our armed forces;
- (3) accepting the need for the Parliament to be as well informed as possible on all aspects of the operation of the forces but recognising that fewer Members and Senators now have direct experience of service in the forces;

agrees that a Parliamentary Armed Forces Scheme be introduced to enable Members and Senators to gain first hand knowledge of service life and to enable service personnel to gain an insight into political life. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 5 March 2001.*)

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

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

The **SELECTION COMMITTEE** is responsible for determining the order of precedence and allotting time for debate on consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business. Its determinations for today are shown under "Business accorded priority for this sitting". Any private Members' business not called on, or consideration of private Members' business or committee and delegation reports which has been interrupted and not re-accorded priority by the Selection Committee on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays, shall be removed from the Notice Paper (standing order 104B).

BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the day

- 1 **ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2000** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 8 February 2001*).
- 2 **REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 November 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 3 **DEFENCE 2000—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**: Resumption of debate (*from 28 February 2001—Mr Causley*) on the motion of Ms Worth—That the House take note of the papers.
- 4 **PETROLEUM (SUBMERGED LANDS) LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 2000** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr Horne*).
- 5 **PETROLEUM (SUBMERGED LANDS) (REGISTRATION FEES) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2000—Mr Horne*).

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.
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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

3 April 2000

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

- (1) Was the document posted on the ATO website at taxreform.ato.gov.au/publications/1999 titled *The new tax system: here's what you need to know* written entirely within the ATO and Treasury, or was part of the drafting provided by his office.
- (2) Does the ATO stand by its assurances at page 7 that prices will not go up by the full 10 per cent because old, unfair taxes such as the wholesale sales tax will be removed and many things will be GST-free.
- (3) What is the basis of the ATO's claim at page 3 that all families, not categories of families, will be better off under the GST
- (4) Will non-prescription skin creams, tampons and sanitary pads, feeding pads and breast pumps, vitamins and minerals, pregnancy kits, spectacle frames, contact lens solutions, first aid kits and band-aids, antiseptics and lozenges, school uniforms, school shoes, stockings and socks, stationery, pens, pencils and paintbrushes and school bags and cases be subject to the GST; if so, how can the ATO claim at page 1 that there will be no GST on health and education.
- (5) Does the ATO stand by its assurance at page 13 that the price of a new \$30 000 family car will fall by around \$2400.

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.

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 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.

10 May 2000

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

27 June 2000

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.

29 June 2000

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

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.

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.

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

- (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.

15 August 2000

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.

16 August 2000

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.

17 August 2000

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.

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.

30 August 2000

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.

31 August 2000

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.

4 September 2000

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.

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.

3 October 2000

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.

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.

4 October 2000

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.

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 percent private health insurance premium rebate; if so, what is the projected effect on the total cost of the 30 percent 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.

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.

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.

10 October 2000

2037 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of reports that his electorate officer, Margaret Nicolls, contacted the Tax Office on behalf of a constituent, and was told by an officer of the Tax Office that it was about time the Treasurer knew what people were experiencing with the delays and current workload of the ATO.
- (2) Is it the case that bad language used by the Tax Officer was the subject of a report to him.
- (3) Has the Tax Officer concerned been the subject of disciplinary action; if so, what action was taken against him

2038 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many businesses in the electorate of Prospect have been issued with a Review of Business Activity Statement.
- (2) What is the average time taken for the ATO to conduct a Review of Business Activity Statement.
- (3) Is a business required to close during a Review of Business Activity Statement.
- (4) If daily business operations are disrupted during a Review to the extent that trading is affected, will the ATO compensate the business for lost revenue.
- (5) What is the average period of time between the completion of a review and the business owner being notified of the result.
- (6) How many employees of the ATO have been assigned to conduct reviews of Business Activity Statements in the South Western Sydney region.

2040 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware that the GST is being charged on Vitalcall services adding around \$56 to the cost of this potentially lifesaving service.
- (2) Does he acknowledge that Vitalcall is an essential health service for sick and elderly people in the event of serious illness or accident.
- (3) Did the Minister for Health and Aged Care raise this matter with you or your department at any stage during the drafting of the GST legislation; if not, why not.
- (4) Will he act to ensure that the GST is removed from this service for elderly people; if not, why not.

2041 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Is he aware that the GST is being charged on Vitalcall services adding around \$56 to the cost of this potentially lifesaving service.
- (2) Does he acknowledge that Vitalcall is an essential health service for sick and elderly people in the event of serious illness or accident.
- (3) Did you or your department raise this matter with the Treasurer or his department at any stage during the drafting of the GST legislation; if not, why not.
- (4) Will he act to ensure that the GST is removed from this service for elderly people; if not, why not.

12 October 2000

2058 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of competitive federalism practices by the States and Territories, particularly the financial cost to the public sector of (a) taxation discounting designed to attract investment, (b) direct financial subsidies to the private sector, (c) subsidies on government business enterprise pricing and (d) local preference clauses in State and Territory tenders.
- (2) What adjustments in Commonwealth financial payments are made in response to the practices referred to in part (1).
- (3) What other Federal Government policies are designed to prevent investment bidding wars between the States and Territories.

2059 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—Has he received advice from the Australian Taxation Office regarding the incidence of tax evasion and tax minimisation following the Government's decision to halve the capital gains tax rate; if so, what are the details.

2062 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Did the Government, in negotiations with Australian Democrats, promise to introduce a National Child Nutrition Program to compensate people on low incomes for the impact of the GST.
- (2) Have applications been called for under the program; if so, (a) when did applications for the program open and close and (b) what progress has been made in allocating funds and commencing projects.

2072 **MS ELLIS:** 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 Canberra.
- (2) How many complaints regarding nursing homes within the electoral division of Canberra were received by her in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999 and (e) 2000.
- (3) Will spot checks be undertaken by her Department after a nursing home receives accreditation; if so, will they be done on a yearly, half-yearly, quarterly, monthly or random basis.

2079 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the last ten financial years, what has been the (a) dollar amount and (b) proportion of Commonwealth road funding to each State and Territory.

30 October 2000

2087 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he able to say who profited from the 13 minutes of trading in ASX on Tuesday, 10 October 2000, before trading was halted, after his announcement of an increase in the individual shareholding limit for the ASX, during which time ASX shares jumped from \$10.96 to \$11.70.

- (2) Is it a fact that the ASX, the regulator of the Australian Stock Exchange, cannot investigate itself; if so, will he request the Australian Securities and Investments Commission to investigate.

31 October 2000

2095 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Does page 4 of the Australian Taxation Office's June 2000 publication *Off-Road Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme Guide for Claimants* state that under proposed regulations, like fuels will include heavy fuel oil, light fuel oil and all fuels that attract the same rate of duty as diesel (except for gasoline, coal tar, and coke oven distillates).
- (2) Since 1 August 2000 have both diesel and unleaded petrol attracted excise of 38.118 cents per litre.
- (3) Given that unleaded fuel is more environmentally friendly than diesel, and is taxed at an identical tax rate, why is the Off-Road Rebate not available for unleaded fuel used for qualifying off-road purposes.
- (4) Given the current high cost of diesel, will the Government extend the Off-Road Rebate Scheme to cover unleaded fuel; if not, why not; if so, when will this happen.

2096 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Further to the answer to question No. 209 (*Hansard*, 11 May 1999, page 4165 and 23 June 1999, page 5736), what proportion of (a) total health expenditure in Australia was funded by health insurance funds in each year since 1996-97 and (b) recurrent health expenditure was funded by health insurance funds for (i) public acute care hospital, (ii) private hospitals, (iii) medical services, (iv) dental services, (v) other professional services and (v) all other services in each year since 1996-97.

1 November 2000

2107 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) With respect to the recent and anticipated reduction of counselling services operated by the Family Court, how will counselling services which currently are, or until recently were, provided by the Family Court, be provided in future.
- (2) How does the Court propose to meet the needs of clients for whom they will no longer be able to offer these services.
- (3) What role will the community-based not-for-profit organisations, funded to provide counselling services under the Family Law Act, be expected to play in picking up those clients who would have been seen by Court personnel.
- (4) Where there is more than one community-based not-for-profit organisation which provides such services in a location in which services were previously provided by the Family Court, how will a decision be taken as to which organisation should provide those services.
- (5) Will these organisations be expected to increase their service levels from within their existing resources.

- (6) Will the Court be contracting out mediation or counselling services previously delivered by the Court, and what is the process by which such contracts have been, or will be, awarded.

2110 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Will he include the drugs Aricept and Exelon, used to treat Alzheimers Disease, on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule; if so, when; if not, why not.

2 November 2000

2116 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—For each Federal electorate, what are the names of the private hospitals located within its boundaries and how many beds does each hospital provide.

2119 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What was the retail price of diesel on (a) 30 June 2000 and (b) 30 September 2000.
- (2) What proportion of the 30 September 2000 price was represented either by the GST or GST related factors.
- (3) What was the industry-specific rationale for providing both farmers and the heavy transport industry with access to the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme.
- (4) What was the cost to budget of the application of that Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme to those two industry sectors.
- (5) Is he aware of the impact of the increase in diesel prices on the civil engineering contracting business.
- (6) Will he consider including the civil engineering contracting business within the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme; if not, how does this industry sector differ from the two industry sectors to which he has extended the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme.
- (7) What was the impact of diesel price increases between 30 June and 30 September 2000 on the construction price of underground power, footpaths, country roads and residential real estate developments for consumers.

2122 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is the Federal Magistrates Service currently conducting circuits; if so, (a) what are those circuits, (b) how frequent are those circuits and (c) how long does the Service sit in each location on the circuit.
- (2) Will the Federal Magistrates Service conduct circuits in the future; if so, (a) what will be those circuits, (b) how frequent will those circuits be and (c) how long will the Service sit in each location on the circuit.
- (3) Does the work of the Federal Magistrates Service rely on community-based family and relationship counselling services.
- (4) How is the operation of those services co-ordinated with the operation of the Service.
- (5) What are the financial arrangements between the court and the community-based organisations with respect to the provision of family and relationship counselling services, including whether there is an agreed fee schedule.

6 November 2000

2129 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) How many persons in each federal electoral division in Victoria have been awarded the Australian Sports Medal 2000.
- (2) What are the names of recipients in the electoral division of Scullin.

2130 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—

- (1) What is the Government's position with regard to bank account fees (a) in general and (b) charged on accounts held by pensioners.
- (2) Will the Government legislate to prevent banks from charging fees on bank accounts; if not, why not.
- (3) Is he aware that in order to receive their fortnightly Centrelink payments, pensioners are required to have an account with a financial institution and that these commonly attract fees.
- (4) Is he aware of any financial institutions offering fee-free accounts for pensioners, if so, can he identify these.
- (5) Given the Government requires pensioners to have accounts with financial institutions in order to receive government payments, will it legislate to prohibit the charging of fees on these accounts; if not, why not.

7 November 2000

2137 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1924 (*Hansard*, 2 November 2000, page 19584), has his Department advised him of expected savings for public hospitals from the 30% private health insurance rebate; if so, what does the advice reveal.
- (2) What cost: benefit outcome for public hospitals does the Government expect to achieve from the 30% rebate.

8 November 2000

2140 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—Has his attention been drawn to claims that paragraph (2)(c)(iii) of section 75AU of the Trade Practices Act significantly reduces the prospects of a successful action against GST price exploitation; if so, what is the Government's reaction to the claims.

27 November 2000

2152 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Does his Department have a website containing a document outlining National Illicit Drugs Strategy "Tough on Drugs" initiatives at <http://www.health.gov.au/pubhlth/strateg/drugs/illicit/index.htm>.
- (2) Does the document contain up-to-date details of all Howard Government spending under the National Illicit Drugs Strategy "Tough on Drugs" which is the responsibility of his Department; if not, will he provide the information not contained in the document.

- (3) Further to the “Demand Reduction Measures” section of the document and dot point two under sub-heading *Treatment* claiming that funding has been provided for a range of activities aimed at identification, promotion and dissemination of best practice in treatment of illicit drug dependence, (a) was there a budget commitment specific to this funding; if so, when was the commitment made and what were the details, (b) is his Department responsible for providing this funding; if so, where can it be found in the budget papers, (c) what are the criteria for funding under this program and if there is no program, how are funding decisions made, (d) what sum has been spent to date on this program, or if there is no program, what is the total sum which has been given to projects, (e) will he provide details of projects funded, including (i) to whom funding was given, (ii) what the funding was for, (iii) what sum was provided, (iv) when was funding given, (v) what are the evaluation criteria for projects which have been funded and (vi) what were the outcomes of projects which have been funded.
- (4) Further to the third dot point under *Treatment*, referring to the \$212m Federal Government commitment to the COAG Diversion Program announced by the Prime Minister in April 1999, (a) how many jurisdictions have signed agreements with the Federal Government to implement diversion programs, (b) what are the terms of each agreement, (c) which Department has responsibility for developing the policy and negotiating these agreements, (d) what sum has been allocated to each State under the relevant agreements and will these funding allocations be given as ‘one-offs’, or is there recurrent funding over a specified time period, (e) is the money being provided to State governments to distribute to various programs or organisations or is the Federal Government directly funding these programs and organisations, (f) what sum has been provided to each jurisdiction to date, (g) what criteria and processes are in place to evaluate the diversion programs in each jurisdiction, (h) when will the Federal Government report on the outcome of these diversion programs and (i) when will agreements be reached between the Federal Government and the other jurisdictions.
- (5) Further to the third dot point under *Treatment* referring to funding of \$11.3m under the COAG Diversion Program agreement to strengthen and support families coping with illicit drugs, (a) over what period will the \$11.3m be made available, (b) is his Department responsible for providing the funding, (c) where can the \$11.3m be found in the budget papers, (d) what guidelines and criteria exist for grants under this funding commitment, (e) what projects have been funded under this commitment and what sum has been given to each project and (f) what framework is in place to evaluate projects funded under this commitment.
- (6) Further to dot point three under subheading *Prevention* referring to the Australian Drug Information Network (ADIN), (a) is the ADIN online; if not, what has been causing the delay and when is it expected to be online, (b) which individuals, organisations and Government Departments have been involved in the development of the ADIN, (c) how long has the ADIN been in development, (d) what is the content of the ADIN, (e) what sum has the ADIN cost to date, and if it is not completed, what are the estimated

costs to bring it to completion and (f) what are the estimated costs of maintaining the ADIN, including staffing costs.

- (7) Further to dot point five under subheading *Prevention* referring to the National Illicit Drugs Campaign (NIDC), (a) does his Department have primary responsibility for the NIDC, (b) which other Departments, non-government organisations, experts or other bodies have been involved in developing the NIDC, (c) where can the cost of the NIDC be found in the budget papers, (d) what work has been carried out under the NIDC to date, (e) what is the cost of that work to date, (f) have consultants been employed to develop the NIDC; if so, what are the details of (i) each consultant, (ii) task undertaken and (iii) cost and (g) will there be a national education campaign carried out in the next twelve months; if so, (i) when will the campaign be launched and (ii) what will the campaign cost.
- (8) Further to subheading *Training* referring to a \$3m three year allocation towards projects to train and better equip front-line workers, (a) where can the \$3m allocation be found in the budget papers, (b) what are the guidelines or criteria for funding projects under the allocation, (c) what framework has been put in place for the evaluation of projects and (d) what funding has been given to projects to date.
- (9) Further to dot point one under subheading *Monitoring and Evaluation* referring to the National Evaluation of Pharmacotherapies for Opioid Dependence, (a) what sum has been allocated to the program, (b) where can the funding be found in the budget papers, (c) what sum has been spent to date and (d) have there been any outcomes from the trials; if so, where and how have these outcomes been disseminated.
- (10) What sum does the Federal Government spend annually on the (a) National Drug Strategy Household Survey, (b) National Coronial Information System and (c) National Illicit Drug Reporting System.

2153 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the financial hardship individuals have faced since the Howard Government's failure to introduce a moratorium on GST on building materials and associated costs on building contracts existing prior to 1 July, but not completed before that date.
- (2) Were delays in completing building contracts prior to 1 July 1 a direct result of the introduction of the GST and the rush by individuals to finish or commence building prior to extra charges being incurred after 1 July.
- (3) Is the \$7000 GST rebate offered to first home buyers, designed to offset the cost of GST, being almost entirely used for the purchase of pre-owned homes that do not attract the GST, thereby negating the intended effect of the rebate.
- (4) What is the total sum of revenue obtained by the Government through GST on building contracts that were in existence before 1 July.
- (5) Has his attention been drawn to claims of job losses through the slowdown in the building industry; if so, what action will he take to ensure that the building industry does not collapse.

- (6) Is the introduction of the GST on existing building contracts prior to 1 July in line with the Government's promise that no-one will be worse off under the GST; if so, why have extra costs as high as \$20 000 been incurred by individuals.
- (7) What action will he take to ensure that (a) individuals are compensated for losses incurred due to the introduction of the GST in relation to building contacts, (b) a moratorium is put in place to ensure that building contracts can be completed without further penalty, (c) the building industry does not suffer any further losses and job cuts as a result of the introduction of the GST and (d) individuals are compensated for the extra costs incurred in building contracts as a result of the introduction of the GST.

2157 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What were the changes made to the Competition Principles Agreement (CPA) the recent Council of Australian Governments (CoAG) meeting on 3 November 2000.
- (2) Will the changes need to be assessed by the Federal Parliament.
- (3) How will the changes address the concerns about National Competition Policy (NCP) expressed in the (a) Productivity Commission's report into the Impact of Competition Policy Reforms on Rural and Regional Australia and (b) Senate Select Committee into the Socio-Economic impacts of National Competition Policy.
- (4) What impact will the changes made have on (a) the perceived economic impact of NCP reforms, (b) the involvement of the public in determining the 'public interest', (c) the transparency of the decision making process surrounding the application of competitive neutrality, (d) the decision making process for assessing jurisdictions implementation process and payment of NCP tranche payments and (e) improving the role of elected Governments in the process.
- (5) Has the five-year review been completed, if not when will it be completed.
- (6) Since March 1996, (a) how often has CoAG met, (b) how often has it considered NCP and (c) what decisions were made.
- (7) Have changes been made to the role of the National Competition Council; if so, what changes.

2169 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Prior to being reimbursed by the Health Insurance Commission (HIC) for the provision of traditionally non-medical services such as acupuncture, naturopathy, homoeopathy or manipulation, are medical practitioners required to have attained formal distinct accreditation in those services; if not, will the Government close this loophole.
- (2) Specifically regarding spinal manipulation, do medical undergraduate courses in Australia provide education and supervised clinical experience that equate with the qualifications required by State and Territory Governments of a chiropractor or an osteopath to gain registration; if not, do State medical registration boards know which medical registrants have completed post-graduate training that would equate with the qualifications

required by State and Territory Governments of a chiropractor or an osteopath.

- (3) Do State medical registration boards provide the HIC with a record showing which registrants have, or do not have, that equivalent qualification to provide spinal manipulation.
- (4) What arrangements does the Federal Government have in place to permit the HIC to differentiate between those medical providers who have, and those medical providers who do not have, that equivalent qualification to provide spinal manipulation.
- (5) Does the HIC know which medical providers are, or are not, qualified to provide spinal manipulation.
- (6) Is it a fact that the HIC will reimburse a medical provider for the provision of manipulation without requiring that the provider has attained a separate and distinct qualification with regard to manipulation.

2170 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—What facilities, programs and resources are available to assist the sufferers of Alzheimer's disease and their carers in the electoral Division of Barton.

28 November 2000

2172 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the Minister's answer to question No. 1546 (*Hansard*, 4 October 2000, page 20847), what evidence can the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) provide that it conveyed to Mr Gunton the appropriate information prior to the commencement of bankruptcy proceedings.
- (2) Did the ATO send the information referred to in part (1) to addresses in the Sydney suburbs of Smithfield and Sutherland, even though Mr Gunton did not reside at these addresses.
- (3) What evidence can the ATO present that Mr Gunton actually received the information referred to in part (1).
- (4) Is the ATO aware that it forwarded Mr Gunton's tax assessments in the mid-1980s to the wrong addresses; if so, what are the details.
- (5) What evidence can the ATO present showing that Mr Gunton earned income from a commercial enterprise in 1981, 1982, 1983 and 1984 and has it ever conveyed this evidence to Mr Gunton; if so, what are the details.

2179 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has the Commonwealth Government eliminated Commonwealth public funding for dental care.
- (2) Have Commonwealth Government cutbacks in dental funding had a crippling impact on NSW dental services.
- (3) Is the average waiting period for dental surgery at the Dental Clinic at Concord Hospital 18 months.
- (4) Are dental services a joint Commonwealth and State Government health responsibility.
- (5) Will the Commonwealth Government reinstate Commonwealth funding for public dental services.

- (6) Will the Commonwealth Government facilitate negotiations with the State Government to enter into a Commonwealth-State agreement on dental services that clearly outlines the responsibilities of each party.

2182 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With respect to his decision to select the Gosport Corridor as the preferred by-pass for Moree, NSW, what was the cost of the alternative Bolla Bolla outer by-pass option and did this include the cost of rail overbridges.
- (2) Was any consideration given to, and costings prepared for, a Bolla Bolla by-pass option that used an alternative to rail overbridges, eg level crossings; if so, what was the cost of the modified option.
- (3) What will be the maximum speed allowable for vehicles travelling on the proposed new Gosport Street route and how many sets of traffic lights, pedestrian crossings and roundabouts will be included on the route.
- (4) How do the statistics referred to in part (3) compare with the (a) current route through Balo Street and (b) alternative Bolla Bolla option.
- (5) Did consultation occur with individual residents and businesspeople along the proposed Gosport Street route; if so, (a) what organisation conducted that consultation, (b) how many meetings were held, (c) how many people attended each meeting and (d) what was the outcome of the meetings.
- (6) Has an environmental impact study for the Gosport Street corridor been completed; if so, is it available to the public.
- (7) Was the support of the Moree Plains Shire Council and the Chamber of Commerce for the Gosport route conveyed to the Government in writing; if so, are copies of those letters available to the public.

29 November 2000

2190 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) How many recipients of the Australian Sports Medal reside in the electoral divisions of (a) Chisholm, (b) Deakin, (c) Casey, (d) Menzies and (e) Aston.
- (2) What are the names of the recipients in the electoral division of Chisholm.

2191 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Why were the drugs Aricept and Exelon used to treat Alzheimer's disease rejected by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listing in September 2000.
- (2) Will he include these drugs on the PBS and relieve many Alzheimer's sufferers and their carers from the financial burden of these costly but effective drugs.

2192 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) How many complaints to her Department has she received about the 75 Thames Street Hostel since it opened.
- (2) On what dates were these complaints made and when were they acted upon by her Department.

30 November 2000

2194 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the Roads to Recovery Program, how will the Government ensure that councils maintain their expenditure on local roads.
- (2) On what date is the requested schedule of proposed additional works to be provided to the Federal Government.
- (3) What are the guidelines for preparing and providing that information, including the categories of information on particular projects required to be provided to the Federal Government.
- (4) Will these schedules of proposed additional works be published on his departmental website; if so, when.
- (5) Will the Federal Government monitor the completion of proposed additional works against the schedules submitted; if so, (a) how will that occur and (b) on what timeframe.
- (6) Does the Federal Government have any authority to change or influence the additional works proposed by the councils; if so, what is the extent of that authority.
- (7) How did the Federal Government determine the respective percentage increases in local road funding in each State and Territory.
- (8) When calculating road length in the formula for distributing the funds, (a) what roads were measured and (b) were sealed and unsealed roads, proposed or planned roads and roads that require no maintenance over the next 4 years included.
- (9) What authority does the Federal Government have over States and Territories to require them to maintain their existing levels of local road funding.
- (10) What criteria and guidelines have been issued for the signs required to be displayed at works funded from the new program.
- (11) Will funding be withdrawn if these signs are not displayed.
- (12) What sum will each sign cost and what sum has been allocated in the program to cover signage.

2195 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Did he issue a joint media release with the Minister for Finance and Administration on 23 December 1998, announcing the placement of a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner at Liverpool Hospital.
- (2) Did he describe Liverpool Hospital as the largest new teaching hospital in Australia in an underserviced region for MRI facilities.
- (3) Did the Minister for Finance and Administration say in the release that he had worked hard to secure the new technology for the South-West Sydney population of 750,000.
- (4) Has Liverpool Hospital still not received its MRI scanner after nearly two years; if not, (a) why not and (b) what action is he taking to finally deliver on his announcement of 23 December 1998.

2197 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1658 (*Hansard*, 27 November 2000, page 20073), based on the DEWRSB Small Area Labour Markets, June Quarter 2000 figures, what were the unemployment rates for the Sydney SLAs.
- (2) How many Job Network sites are located in each of the SLAs referred to in part (1).

2198 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Did he receive the necessary supporting documentation from the NSW Government in August 1999 for the provision of a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner for Liverpool Hospital under the Federal Adjustment and Relocation Scheme.
- (2) Did he state in a press release dated 23 December 1998 that subject to the supporting documentation, he expected the hospital to have an MRI as soon as possible.
- (3) Has he delayed the approval of funding for an MRI scanner for Liverpool Hospital under the scheme; if so, why.
- (4) When will he approve funding for an MRI scanner at Liverpool Hospital.

4 December 2000

2205 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the recent report by the international health care coalition, Health Care Without Harm, into the possible health risks to newborns of exposure to chemicals such as ethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP), a chemical found in polyvinyl chloride (PVC) medical products.
- (2) Are neonatal intensive care units aware of the possible risks of such PVC exposure to newborns and will these intensive care units be seeking to reduce the exposure.
- (3) Will he be requesting further research into the possible risks to newborns of such PVC exposure.

2207 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1940 (*Hansard*, 27 November 2000, page 20076), what were the results of the initial phase of a community consultation program that considered the idea of optional tax returns.
- (2) Did the respondents think that it was a good idea.
- (3) What reservations were expressed.
- (4) As it was decided to not give the proposal a full scale pilot in 2000-2001, is it planned to consider a pilot for 2001-2002 or 2002-2003.
- (5) Has the Australian Taxation Office considered any internal discussion papers on the subject in the last year.
- (6) Given that the proposal is in a formative stage, when will the wider community be given an opportunity to comment on the proposal.

5 December 2000

- 2212 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) audit of Australian aviation safety referred to in the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's Corporate Plan 2000-2001 to 2002-2003 were not accepted and who made the decision to not accept them.
 - (2) What reasons were given to ICAO for not accepting those recommendations.
- 2213 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) With respect to the surplus achieved by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) in 1999-2000, what was the amount of increased revenue achieved from aviation fuel excise.
 - (2) What increase in aviation fuel excise revenue does CASA expect in the current financial year as against the estimate of \$54 million collected on aviation fuel consumption for 2000-2001.
- 2215 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) With respect to the obligations placed on Certificate of Registration holder for aircraft, how many instances in 2000 has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority become aware of where an aircraft owner has failed to pass on maintenance information to an operator, lessor, or maintenance organisation.
 - (2) Of those cases, how many owners were (a) investigated and (b) prosecuted, and what was the outcome of those investigations and prosecutions.
- 2217 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1803 (*Hansard*, 28 November 2000, page 20148), is she stating that both she and her Department have no data regarding both ethnic-specific and multi-ethnic nursing homes and hostels.
 - (2) If this is the case, how can she allocate the proportion of the Aged Care Budget for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in a fair manner which ensures that all communities are provided an equitable level of funding.
 - (3) If this is not the case, can she supply the information as requested in question No. 1803.

6 December 2000

- 2219 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In his answer to question No. 1644 (*Hansard*, 16 August 2000, page 19216) did he state that the Calder Highway is a State arterial road therefore the responsibility of the Victorian Government.
 - (2) Now that the Prime Minister has announced funding of \$1.6 billion for regional, suburban and country roads, will he (a) concede that the Calder Highway is a road of National Importance and (b) allocate funds from the Roads to Recovery program to continue the duplication of the highway.

- 2221 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the status of the drug RU486 in Australia.
 - (2) Is RU486 being used as an abortion drug overseas.
 - (3) What are the side-effects of RU486 when it is not properly used in combination with Cyotec (Mifepristol).
 - (4) Will RU486 be banned in Australia.
- 2222 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Will he include the drug Serc on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for treatment of Meniere's Disease.
- 2223 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—What proportion of the Government's Fuel Grants Scheme in its first three months of operation was paid to mining companies operating in regions in which the grant applies.
- 2224 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) How many beds at the Allandale Aged Care Facility in Cessnock are licensed to accommodate people with (a) high-and (b) low care needs.
 - (2) What sum of Commonwealth funding did the Allandale Aged Care Facility receive in 1999-2000 for (a) high care, (b) low care and (c) group home residents.
 - (3) Is the Hunter Area health service receiving the maximum possible sum of Commonwealth funding for each of the 336 high-care beds at Allandale; if not, why not.
 - (4) Has she or her department held discussions with the Hunter Area Health Service regarding proposals to sell the Allandale facility to the not-for-profit sector.
 - (5) Have the Hunter Area Health Service and her Department agreed to reduce the number of high-care beds at Allandale by 120; if so, to where will the high-care beds go.
 - (6) What mix of high-care, low-care and hostel beds has the Commonwealth agreed to fund under the Hunter Area Health Service's proposal to sell Allandale.
 - (7) How much more funding will a not-for-profit provider receive from the Commonwealth over a financial year period than the Hunter Area Health Service receives currently.
 - (8) Has the Commonwealth imposed any condition upon the Hunter Area Health Service which leaves it with no choice but to sell the Allandale facility.
 - (9) Is the proposed sale likely to lead to a reduction in employment levels at Allandale.
 - (10) Has Allandale now achieved full Commonwealth accreditation; if so, was there any delay in awarding accreditation or were any particular care-standard problems identified throughout the assessment process.

7 December 2000

2229 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Why is ReVia (Naltrexone) listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule only to treat those afflicted with alcohol addiction.
- (2) Will ReVia (Naltrexone) be reconsidered for listing on the PBS for treatment of opioid addictions.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to a Media Release from Orphan Australia, dated 11 December 1999 titled 'Naltrexone wins PBS Listing - but only for alcohol addiction' which states that surveillance figures on heroin deaths found that the only State where deaths are not increasing is WA, where the population-based naltrexone program run by Dr George O'Neil appears to be making a difference.
- (4) Does he accept that ReVia (Naltrexone) is the most successful method of treating opioid addiction in Australia at present; if not, what is the most successful method of treating opioid addiction.

2230 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—

- (1) Did the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) grant a deadline extension to certain parties in relation to the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited Pricing Inquiry as a result of certain ACCC reports being found to be in error; if so, what errors were found.
- (2) Are the reports in question those published by the ACCC pursuant to the Airports Act and are based on audited accounts that airports are required by the Act to provide the ACCC.
- (3) Has the ACCC been aware of the errors for some time; if so, when did the ACCC first become of the errors.
- (4) Having been advised of the errors, did the ACCC publish a correction; if not, why not and who took that decision.
- (5) What action has the ACCC taken to ensure that all other reports are correct and that such errors will not occur in the future.
- (6) Is he satisfied that the ACCC in publishing incorrect reports and then not correcting them has met its obligations to both the Parliament and the firms that it regulates.

2235 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the answer to question No. 1196 (*Hansard*, 3 April 2000, page 14531), how many (a) passenger and (b) freight trains are expected to run each day on the federally funded Alice Springs to Darwin railway at the (i) commencement and (ii) forecast peak of the line's operation.

2237 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Further to the answer to question No. 1924 (*Hansard*, 2 November 2000, page 22122) and following the release of the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook, (a) what is the cost of the 30 % private health insurance rebate and (b) what amount of savings has this rebate created for the public hospital system.

2238 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) For each broad type of service categorised in the Medicare statistics, what percentage of services is (a) direct billed and (b) billed at or below Medicare schedule fees.
- (2) What do the figures referred to in part (1) indicate about the (a) supply of specialist services, (b) inflation of specialists' incomes and (c) extent of competition among the various specialist groups.

2250 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to instances at a number of annual general meetings recently where Westfield, Boral and Davnet circumvented a long standing tradition of a call for a show of hands to register shareholder approval for resolutions or directors put to the vote of publicly listed companies.
- (2) What plans has the Government in train to enforce basic meeting procedures at shareholders meetings of listed companies.
- (3) Is it a fact that over 30% of superannuation funds do not cast their votes at the annual general meeting of listed companies in which they invest.
- (4) Does he have any plans to increase the voting rate of these superannuation funds.

2251 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) Is it a fact that around 200,000 tonnes of fabricated steel is expected to land on Australia's docks in 2000 and such imports will result in the loss of more than five million direct man-hours for the Australian steel fabrication industry, with the consequent loss in skills and industry capability, as well as state and federal taxes, including revenues from the Goods and Services Tax.
- (2) What support can be provided to assist this industry to adapt to this massive increase in imports.
- (3) In light of the Queensland Government's Local Industry Policy, which includes commitment to local industry being given full, fair and reasonable opportunity to tender for major project work, (a) is the Minister aware that, on a number of major resource and infrastructure projects, proponents frame their contract specifications to effectively exclude local industries, such as the steel fabrication industry, from even having the chance to put in for work and (b) when will Government address this situation by introducing (i) a national local industry policy and (ii) Mandatory Project Impact Assessments for major steel projects.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that work undertaken by Australian steel fabricators must comply with the Australian Standards and inspection codes, whilst steel imported from overseas is not required to comply with these standards; if so, how does the Minister propose to address the issue of imported steel not needing to comply with such standards.

- (5) Is the Minister aware that a survey of the top seven fabrication firms in Australia found that almost eight out of ten jobs at those factories would cease to exist by June 2001.
- (6) Is the Minister able to say whether three of the top four steel fabrication firms in Western Australia have closed.
- (7) Is it a fact that the bulk of steel fabrication work on projects including the Visy project at Tumut, NSW, the Callide C. Millmerran and Tarong power stations in Queensland, and the Kwinana Fertiliser Plant in Western Australia, will be imported from overseas.
- (8) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to a report in the (a) *Townsville Bulletin* on 15 August 2000, in which Pacific Coast Engineering Sales Manager stated that the fifteen-year-old company that employed 126 people six months ago now employs only half that number due to foreign imports of steel and will reduce the number of apprentices from 12 to two and (b) *Bundaberg News Mail* of 24 August 2000 stating that Stewart and Sons reports the loss of a quarter of its steel fabrication workforce as a result of foreign imports.
- (9) Is the Minister aware of estimates by the Australian Institute of Steel Construction that the level of steel fabrication imports increased six-fold between 1992 and 1998 and that around two hundred thousand tonnes of fabricated steel is due to be imported.

2252 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1441 (*Hansard*, 6 September 2000, page 20370), is it in the public interest to know what percentage of operations under items 34643 and 16525 result in pregnancy termination.
- (2) Further to part (3) of his answer, is he willing to introduce new item codes that separate that percentage of operations procured under Item 34643 and 16525 for curretage of Uterus which separates those operations that do, and do not, procure a miscarriage; if so, when will the introduction of new item codes take place.
- (3) Is he able to estimate the number of late term (terminations occurring on or after the twentieth week of pregnancy) pregnancy abortions that are committed in Australia each year; if not, why not.

2253 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) How many persons taking out private health care policies on or before the 1 July 2000 deadline, have taken out more than basic health care cover.
- (2) Are these new private health care policy holders still eligible for Medicare and public health cover for items not covered by their private health cover.

6 February 2001

2257 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What total costs have been incurred by the Commonwealth in its legal action against me before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and the Federal Court over the Brisbane Airport Corporation Master Plan.
- (2) What costs have been incurred for the engagement of (a) Queen's Counsel and (b) Senior Counsel.

- (3) What is the costed-out value of solicitors used from the Australian Government Solicitor and elsewhere.
- (4) What other costs have been incurred.

2259 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Who recommended the need to appoint a wine consultant for Kirribilli House.
- (2) How was the consultant selected.
- (3) Who is the consultant.
- (4) How many hours has the consultant devoted to the selection of wines, and what is the basis of his or her payment.
- (5) From whom were the selected wines purchased.
- (6) Is he able to say whether the consultant holds any shares or has an interest in the selected liquor companies or wineries.
- (7) What wines were selected for Kirribilli House or The Lodge as a result of the use of a consultant, and what was the purchase price for each of the wines selected.
- (8) In selecting the wines, what guidelines were put in place as to the needs of the occupants of Kirribilli House and The Lodge.

2260 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the answer to question No. 1992 (*Hansard*, 7 December 2000, page 20814), in discussions with Australian Transport and Energy Corridor Limited about the proposal to build an inland railway between Melbourne and Brisbane and beyond, has the Government's view been that support for the railway would be on the basis of no cost to Government or on the basis of no net cost to Government.

2261 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) On what basis was the draft master plan for Coolangatta Airport rejected because the Tweed Shire Council had not agreed to extend the runway into NSW land.
- (2) Have other master plans been rejected because of opposition from local councils.
- (3) Given the importance of Coolangatta Airport to the Gold Coast, did the useful advice referred to in his Media Release of 1 December 2000 from the Member for McPherson and the Gold Coast business community recommend the extension of the airport.
- (4) Will his Department assist the operators of the Coolangatta Airport in preparing a runway extension confined within the airport site and will he then approve the draft master plan as stated in his Media Release of 1 December 2000, irrespective of the views of the Tweed Shire Council.
- (5) When (a) was Coolangatta Airport built on the current site, (b) did the Tweed Shire Council zone the land in question as crown land and (c) did the local council give approval for residential development right up to the edge of the crown land.

- (6) Has any Member of the House of Representatives or Senate made representations to him, his office or his Department, either written or oral, against the extension of the runway, be it within or beyond existing airport boundaries.

2262 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the detention by the San Francisco Coast Guard in October 2000 of the oil tanker *Neptune Dorado*, with 30 safety and environment faults.
- (2) Had the vessel sailed from Australia; if so, (a) when did it leave Australia and who (b) operated and (c) chartered the vessel.
- (3) How long had the vessel been operating in Australian waters and under which flag was it operating.
- (4) Has this vessel ever been issued with a Single or Continuing Voyage Permit by his Department; if so, when.
- (5) Did the Australian Maritime Safety Authority conduct any inspections of the vessel; if so, (a) how many, (b) when and (c) were any safety breaches discovered.
- (6) Has his attention been drawn to an oil spill on the deck of the tanker *Humbolt Current* in Melbourne; if so, (a) when did it occur, (b) what sum did the clean up cost, (c) were the costs recouped and (d) were any charges laid.
- (7) Under which country is the *Humbolt Current* flagged.
- (8) Has that vessel ever been issued with a Single or Continuing Voyage Permit by his Department, if so, when.

2263 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With respect to Airservices Australia's new charging regime for pilot briefing services, what is the total cost to a pilot to access the briefing services under the respective access options.
- (2) Is the information only accessible if the relevant fees are paid.
- (3) Is the information necessary for safe flight and which parts of the service are mandatory for a pilot.
- (4) Are there any systems in place to monitor how many pilots are choosing to not access the services due to either cost or principle.
- (5) Is he able to say whether pilots are charged for this information and service in other countries, including the USA, Canada, UK, France, South Africa, Greece, Germany, Italy, Indonesia, Singapore.
- (6) Is he also able to say whether pilots with internet access can obtain the relevant Australian information without cost from US internet sites.

2264 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What was the basis of the Government's decision to move to tied grants for funding under the Roads to Recovery Act and does the decision mean there

will be two streams of local roads assistance, with existing grants paid under the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act and the roads to recovery grants paid under the Roads to Recovery Act.

- (2) How do the distribution of grants under the Roads to Recovery Act compare with those that apply under existing arrangements for the distribution of road grants.
- (3) How do the criteria used under the Act vary from formulae used by State Grants Commissions.
- (4) In the development of the formula used under the Roads to Recovery Act were the State Grants Commissions consulted as to which methodologies should be used.
- (5) On the basis of the formula used under the Roads to Recovery Act, will Victoria, Queensland and South Australia gain under the roads to recovery allocation at the expense of New South Wales, Victoria, West Australia, Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.
- (6) How does the monetary value of the grants under the Roads to Recovery Act compare to that which would have occurred if the grants had been determined on the basis of the formula used to determine the interstate distribution of road funds on the basis of the National Principles in the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act.

2265 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has he received a copy of a report titled “Critical Design Deficiencies, Malfunction and Accident Risk Assessment of the Kenworth Air Glide 200 Suspension” from Dr A. G. McLean, Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Wollongong.
- (2) Does Dr McLean’s report identify critical design deficiencies with the Kenworth Air Glide 200 suspension system and recommend the recall and modification of this suspension system.
- (3) Has Dr McLean identified the need for major improvements in the engineering analysis, risk assessment, approval and accreditation procedures for heavy vehicles.
- (4) What is his response to each of the issues raised.

2266 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to his Media Release on 13 December 2000 regarding the Very High Speed Rail, will he make available all the financial analysis associated with the decision that the Speedrail Consortium’s bid did not meet the no net cost to Government criterion.
- (2) What definition of no net cost to Government was applied to the assessment.
- (3) What sum would the Government have been prepared to contribute to make the Speedrail bid viable.
- (4) Did the statement say that the consideration of financing arrangements will include the preparedness of governments to make financial contributions to the project because clearly public investment would be essential to make the

VHST vision a reality; if so, is the Government prepared to make a financial contribution to the East Coast VHST network project.

- (5) If so, what terms or principles have been set to define the position of the Federal Government in the inter-governmental negotiations to establish the preparedness of governments to make a contribution to the project; if not, when will the Federal Government make a decision on its preparedness to contribute to the project.
- (6) Will the comprehensive scoping study proceed if any government on the East Coast is not prepared to financially contribute to the project or the scoping study.
- (7) Has he written to the NSW, Queensland, Victorian or ACT governments regarding an East Coast VHST project; if so (a) to whom has he written, (b) on what dates and (c) has he received any response to that correspondence.
- (8) Does the Federal Government have a preferred route for the proposed East Coast VHST project; if so, what is the route.
- (9) Has the Federal Government given any commitments to the ACT Government that the East Coast VHST route would pass through Canberra; if so, (a) what are the details of the commitment and (b) when was it given.
- (10) Did the Government rely on any external consultant reports or studies or any submissions from any Department in making its assessment that passenger volumes in Australia are not sufficient to make high speed rail commercially viable without public subsidy; if so, will the reports or studies be made publicly available.
- (11) In relation to the first inter-governmental negotiations on the East Coast VHST project, (a) when and where will they be held, (b) who has been invited, (c) who is convening the meeting, (d) who is funding the negotiations and (e) will the minutes of those negotiations be made public.
- (12) Will the private sector, industry or community representatives be involved in the consideration of the East Coast VHST project; if so, when and who.
- (13) What timeframe has he set for the consideration of and decision on an East Coast VHST project and will an interim report be released at any point in the timeline; if so when.
- (14) Based on the information in the Speedrail consortia's submission, how long does the Federal Government estimate it would take to construct an East Coast VHST link.

2267 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1994 (*Hansard*, 6 February 2001, page 20892) concerning the preparation of reports on all projects, grants and funding programs in a number of electoral divisions since March 1996, who requested preparation of the reports for the electoral divisions of Bass, Eden-Monaro, Gippsland, Hindmarsh, Kalgoorlie, Makin and Warringah.
- (2) Who authorised the preparation of the reports and what was the cost of preparation of each report.
- (3) Did consultations take place between his office and officials of the Liberal or National parties about the preparation of the reports.

- (4) To whom and how were the reports distributed.
 - (5) What are the details of the responses prepared by his Department for each of the electoral divisions of Bass, Eden-Monaro, Gippsland, Hindmarsh, Kalgoorlie, Makin and Warringah.
 - (6) When and how were Members of Parliament and Senators advised that it is standard practice for such detailed reports to be prepared for elected representatives of both Government and non-Government parties.
- 2268 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What action was taken in 2000 by the National Rail Corporation to dispose of surplus railway wagons in an operational condition, including the destruction of wagon stock at Somerton, Vic.
 - (2) Is there a chronic shortage of suitable rail wagons on the national network and could surplus wagons have been sold on the second hand market instead of cutting them up for a sum that may be less than one tenth of the value.
 - (3) Is a second hand wagon worth up to \$25 000 on the second hand market.
- 2269 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Government announce on 4 January 2001 that a toll, at an expected rate of \$4 to \$5, will be charged on the Western Sydney Orbital; if so, will a toll apply on the proposed new route of the National Highway between the M2 and F3 in Sydney.
 - (2) Whilst the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority will manage the planning study of the proposed link between the M2 and F3, what is the expected cost of the link and at what stage are negotiations between the NSW and Commonwealth Governments as to who will meet the cost of the link.
- 2270 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has the network performance and investment audit being undertaken by the Australian Rail Track Corporation been completed; if not, when will it be completed.
 - (2) What sum has the audit cost to date and if it is not complete, what is the expected cost of completing the audit.
 - (3) Which program funded the audit.
 - (4) Will the audit report be released in a draft or final format.
 - (5) When will the audit report be made public.
- 2271 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) When will the construction of the Alice Springs to Darwin railway commence.
 - (2) What has caused the delay with the commencement of the project.
- 2272 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What projects or programs have received funding in each year from the allocation of \$250 million over four years by the Commonwealth Government for rail projects.
- (2) Has the full \$250 million been allocated to particular projects or programs.
- (3) On which projects or programs that have received an allocation have works commenced and which projects or programs have been completed.
- (4) In relation to the projects that have not commenced, (a) what was the expected commencement date, (b) what is the cause of the project delay and (c) when will the projects (i) commence and (ii) be completed.
- (5) What sum of the \$250 million allocated in each of the four years has been spent.

2273 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With respect to the charging arrangements for the provision of air traffic services, has his attention been drawn to a practice whereby some pilots provide an incorrect aircraft call-sign in order to avoid being billed for landing at general aviation airports.
- (2) What is the penalty for such an act.
- (3) Have any prosecutions occurred for such acts since 1995; if so, how many in each year.
- (4) Are there safety consequences of this behaviour.
- (5) Has Airservices Australia, his Department or the Civil Aviation Safety Authority issued any information warning of the risks and implications of such practices.

2274 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What sum has the Commonwealth Government allocated to the dedicated freight line project through Sydney and what is the breakdown of how that allocation is to be spent.
- (2) What sum has been spent.
- (3) What proportion of the total cost of the project is the Commonwealth Government allocation.
- (4) Has the project commenced; if not, why not.

2275 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many locomotives are owned by the National Rail Corporation and of these, how many are in use.
- (2) How many locomotives owned by the National Rail Corporation have not been used in the past 12 months.
- (3) Where are unused locomotives stored and at what cost per annum.
- (4) Did he investigate the options to lease or sell these assets; if not, why not.
- (5) What is the estimated value of these assets (a) at book value and (b) on the open market.

- 2276 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Does the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) have a formal media strategy; if so, when was it developed and by whom.
 - (2) Was any external consultant engaged to assist or advise in the preparation of the strategy; if so, what organisation and at what cost.
 - (3) Did his office have any input into the development of the media strategy; if so, what was the input.
 - (4) What are the aims and objectives of the media strategy.
 - (5) Is the current performance of the CASA media unit and senior management consistent with those aims and objectives.
- 2277 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Are both Virgin Blue and Impulse airlines meeting their legal obligations with respect to workers compensation payments and superannuation under Commonwealth, State and Territory laws and is such compliance a condition of holding an Air Operators Certificate; if not, why not.
- 2278 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did he announce a Commonwealth contribution of \$550 000 to assist in building a Back o' Bourke Exhibition Centre on the banks of the Darling River, as reported in the *Bulletin* of 30 January 2001.
 - (2) On which date was an application lodged for this contribution and by whom was it lodged.
 - (3) From which Government program was the money allocated.
 - (4) On which date was the contribution announced and how and where was that announcement made.
 - (5) What is the full cost to complete the Back o' Bourke Exhibition Centre.
 - (6) Is the Commonwealth Government the only donor to the project; if not, who else has contributed financially.
 - (7) How many jobs will be created by the proposed Back o' Bourke Exhibition Centre.
 - (8) Is he able to say on what basis the *Bulletin* reported that he announced \$550 000 for the current stage of the project and offered the nod and wink that there was more where that came from.
- 2280 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) In relation to the sale of Sydney Airport, what has been the commercial return on assets for each financial year of the Sydney Airports Corporation Limited (SACL).
 - (2) Does the proposed increase in aeronautical charges of 130% include consideration for pre-existing investment.
 - (3) If the proposed increase in aeronautical charges is approved, what is the expected increase in SACL profits for the next full financial year.
 - (4) Do current aeronautical charges at Sydney Airport more than allow SACL to recover the costs of its pre-existing investment, if so, is this confirmed by (a)

the high rates of return achieved by SACL in 1998-99 and 1999-2000, (b) Standard & Poors A+ long term and A-1 short term credit rating in 1998-99, (c) the Federal Airports Corporation's statements and representations in 1998 that no increase in charges was necessary to achieve a reasonable return on existing investment and (d) current aeronautical charges at Sydney Airport having been set together with those of the Phase 1 privatised airports, which subsequently sold at high earnings multiples.

2281 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Further to the announcement on 18 January 2001 of Salomon Smith Barney and Freehills to conduct the scoping study into the sale of the Sydney basin airports, what was the composition of the panel that made the selection.
- (2) Which individuals or organisations were the independent private sector representatives, referred to in the media statement as being included on the panel.
- (3) Who selected the selection panel.
- (4) What are the terms of reference for the scoping study and what is its expected cost to complete.
- (5) When is the first interim or draft report expected, who will receive that report and when is the final report due.
- (6) Will the scoping study be considered by Cabinet.
- (7) What are the objectives of the Government for the sale of the Sydney basin airports.

2282 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article published in the *Orient* on 29 November 2000 concerning the law offices Adrian Joel and Co relating to class actions on immigration cases.
- (2) Does the article advise that class actions represented by Adrian Joel and Co involve so-called asylum seekers whose applications have been rejected by his Department and the Refugee Review Tribunal, irrespective of whether the applicant's visa has expired.
- (3) Does the article also advise that once the applicant's name is included in a class action, he or she is automatically entitled to a bridging visa and the right to stay in the country until the case is finalised.
- (4) What sum of taxpayers' money has his Department spent in defending the integrity of Australia's migration system against class actions mounted by Adrian Joel and Co and how many (a) class actions has the company mounted and (b) clients are involved in these class actions.
- (5) At what stage are the class actions initiated by Adrian Joel and Co and on what are they based.

2284 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Further to her decision to grant additional money to the Australian Greek Welfare Society and Co.As.It Victoria under the Government's Ethnic Aged Care Framework, was such a proposal canvassed with her, her office or her Department prior to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs

withdrawing funding to these organisations under the Community Settlement Services Scheme; if so, who was involved in these discussions.

- (2) What sum of additional funding was given to the organisations under the Aged Care Framework, and what sum did they have withdrawn under the Community Settlement Services Scheme.
- (3) When were applications lodged by these organisations for additional funding under the Aged Care Framework and of the applications lodged, how many other organisations applied for funds at this time and what additional funding did they receive.
- (4) What agreement was entered into by the organisations and her Department as to how the additional funds were to be used, and how long will the additional funds apply.
- (5) In considering the requests for additional funding for these organisations, did she or her office receive requests for such funding from the Prime Minister, his office or any other member of the Government; if so, who made such requests and on what dates were these requests made.
- (6) As the Turkish Association of Victoria also lost funding under the Government's Community Settlement Services Scheme at the same time as the Australian Greek Welfare Society and Co.As.It Victoria, were any requests made at the same time for funding assistance under the Ethnic Aged Care Framework.

2286 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—In light of the fuel tax windfall, will he consider funding the set up of a fuel co-operative in Bendigo, Vic.

2287 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Will any decision on the importation of apples and pears from New Zealand be taken only after the Senate inquiry into this matter has concluded.

2288 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What performance criteria does the ABC have for measuring the quality of service from the transmission providers responsible for ABC television transmission sites in Australia.
- (2) What records does the ABC collect in relation to (a) maintenance and (b) emergency repairs carried out on its television transmission sites.
- (3) What records does the ABC collect in relation to breaks in television transmission.
- (4) What was the performance against the ABC's prescribed criteria referred to in part (1) for the transmission site at Mount Hopeful in Central Queensland in (a) 1995, (b) 1996, (c) 1997, (d) 1998, (e) 1999 and (f) 2000.

2289 **MR O'KEEFE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Is a "life interest" in a farm asset valued and assessed for purposes of the Age Pension assets test.
- (2) Is it a fact that such life interests are not taken into account if a person was receiving social security support at the time the measure was introduced; if

so, will these provisions be extended to people who apply after that date; if not, how does the policy co-exist with the claims made by the Government in its AAA farm package regarding older generational issues.

2290 **MR O'KEEFE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) What is the maximum percentage of Age Pension which can be classified as essential expenditure for the purpose of assessing fees payable in aged care facilities.
- (2) Does the Government encourage aged care residents to maintain private health insurance cover.
- (3) Are private health insurance fees regarded as essential expenditure for the purpose of calculating essential expenditure; if not, why not.

2291 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a court order issued in Perth in December 1997 giving Mr Peter Brewer rights of access to his daughter, Zoe Brewer.
- (2) Has it been brought to his attention that on 21 April 1998 Mr Brewer's ex-wife and her partner Jose Resina left Australia with Zoe Brewer, and that this act has been determined by the Family Court of Western Australia to be in defiance of its court order granting Mr Brewer rights of access to his daughter.
- (3) Is it the case that Mr Resina illegally left Australia in 1999, thereby forfeiting a recognisance of \$20,000 which was being held by the court.
- (4) Is there any mechanism available to the Commonwealth Government whereby this forfeited recognisance money could be made available to Mr Brewer to enable him to pursue his legal battle to have his daughter returned to Australia.
- (5) In a letter to Mr Brewer, dated 15 January 1999, did the Australian Federal Police undertake to investigate the possibility of extraditing Mr Resina and tell Mr Brewer the Crown Solicitor's attempts in this regard would be monitored; if so, have there been any outcomes from the investigations; if so what are those outcomes.
- (6) What assistance has his Department provided to Mr Brewer following the promise of help in a letter from him dated 25 January 2000.
- (7) Is there any other form of assistance that his Department, or any other Commonwealth Government agency, can offer Mr Brewer in his attempt to have the Family Court's determination enforced.

2292 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has his Department recently held discussions with Fairfield City Councillor Robert Cork, concerning plans to change the local zoning in the Badgerys Creek area.
- (2) Did his Department tell Clr Cork during discussions that the changes to zoning would only approve buildings compatible with an airport.
- (3) When were the discussions were held.
- (4) Which employees of his Department spoke to Clr Cork.

- (5) Has he been involved in any discussions directly with Clr Cork; if so, when were the discussions held.
- (6) Were other people involved in these discussions; if so, what are the names of the people involved in these discussions.
- (7) Has his Department plans to change the zoning of the Badgerys Creek area so that only buildings compatible with an airport will be approved.

2293 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Has there been a request from anyone for terms of the lease to *Christian Voice* of the Cox Peninsula Transmitter; if so, (a) when was it made and (b) what was its disposition.
- (2) Has the Government instigated, or is it aware of, an inquiry into the nature of *Christian Voice*; if so, what is known about the organisation.
- (3) Were there other organisations who wished to use the transmitter; if so, (a) who were they and (b) what processes denied them use of the transmitter.
- (4) Has there been a social impact study on the possible effects of broadcasts by this Christian group to Indonesia during a period of conflict between Christians and Muslims.
- (5) Has the Indonesian Government or other governments in the range of the transmitter been invited to comment on the *Christian Voice* presence.

2294 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Has the Office of Government Online or any other agency within the Minister's portfolio attempted to determine the number of Commonwealth transactions conducted online; if so, with what results.
- (2) If available, what are the numbers of transactions expected in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004.
- (3) What whole-of-government research or investigation has been undertaken by the Minister's Department, or other Departments where known, of expected savings from the growth of Government online services.
- (4) Can details be provided, including savings expected and realised by portfolio, for (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004.

2295 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Has his Department attempted to determine the number of Commonwealth transactions conducted online; if so, with what results.
- (2) If available, what are the numbers of transactions expected in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004.
- (3) What whole-of-government research or investigation has been undertaken by his Department, or other Departments where known, of expected savings from the growth of Government online services.
- (4) Can details be provided, including savings expected and realised by portfolio, for (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004.

- (5) What negotiations have occurred with States and local governments to secure more effective utilisation of public assets such as government shop fronts and service centres.
- (6) Can details be provided of savings expected and realised for the Commonwealth by portfolio, for each State and for each local government area for (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003 and (d) 2003-2004.

2296 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) What are the Government's plans in respect of the proposed sale of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport.
- (2) Will the proceeds of the sale be used for a specific purpose; if so, what is that purpose.

2297 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What steps has he taken since the meeting of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General in Perth 1998 to achieve national uniform defamation legislation.
- (2) In the absence of agreements by the State and Territory governments to pursue national uniform defamation legislation, has he received any legal advice relating to the extent to which the Commonwealth could unilaterally enact Commonwealth defamation legislation relying on the heads of power available to it in the Constitution.
- (3) What barriers exist to the enactment of Commonwealth defamation legislation.

2298 **MR C. P. THOMPSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many judgements by Justices of the Federal Court of Australia have been outstanding for a period of more than 6 months.
- (2) Is he able to say when these judgements will be delivered.

2300 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 2183 (*Hansard*, 6 February 2001, page 20913) in which he stated that the TPV holder may be granted a permanent protection visa after the relevant period if they still need protection and meet the criteria, has he failed to make a commitment to those TPV holders that fulfil all relevant criteria that they will receive a permanent protection visa; if so, why.
- (2) Did he assure those at a public meeting in Melbourne on 22 November 2000 that these TPV holders would definitely be granted permanent protection.
- (3) If he is refusing to make such a commitment, how can TPV holders have any confidence about their future in Australia, and how can they make plans for their new life here.

2301 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) In light of the Migration Review Tribunal's lack of power to review decisions made at overseas embassies for refugee and humanitarian claimants, does he have the power of review.

- (2) If not, how can justice be guaranteed to any claimants who may receive an incorrect or unsatisfactory decision, especially when many such decisions are based on a subjective judgment by a single official.
- (3) Will he make a Regulation to provide him with a power of review.

2303 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—Did he say that Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport would not be sold until the noise problems at the airport had been solved.

2304 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did he, in his Federation Address 'Backing Australia's Ability' on 29 January 2001 announce that over the next five years, each year, an additional 2000 new university places will be created with priority given to Information Communications Technology (ICT), mathematics and science.
- (2) Does this mean that in the first year 2000 places will be created, and that in the second year these 2000 places continue, and 2000 new places are created, and that in the third year there are 6000 places, 8000 in the fourth year and 10 000 in the fifth year.
- (3) Will these places lapse after three years, so that in the fourth year the first 2000 places disappear, and in the fifth year after three year's tenure, the second tranche of 2000 places are gone, so that in the fifth year there are only 6000 new places.
- (4) In either case, does the announcement of 2000 new places each year over the next five years mean more places than the announcement that over that period, this will result in 21 000 equivalent full time student places at a cost of \$151 million.
- (5) Is his figure of 21 000 places based on an attrition rate expected because these new places will be taken up by students who cannot now gain entrance to university courses, despite the low current entrance criteria for science admissions.
- (6) Has the Government rejected the recommendation of the Chief Scientist in *The Chance to Change*, August 2000, to create 500 HECS scholarships to attract the best students to science degrees, at a total cost for five cohorts of about \$40 million, in favour of a program to enrol weaker students at a cost of \$151 million.
- (7) Does the Government intend to micro-manage the admissions procedures of the autonomous universities to ensure that priority is given to ICT, mathematics and science; if so, does the Government intend to rely on the fact that these new places will be the last choice of aspiring university applicants.

2305 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to statements made in the *Australian* newspaper that Federal Cabinet has ruled out building a second airport in Western Sydney.
- (2) Does section 11 of the Airports Act state that the airport-lessee companies of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA) and Sydney West Airport must be wholly-owned subsidiaries of the same holding company; if so, (a) what is the rationale behind this provision and (b) will the provision be repealed.

- (3) Does paragraph 14(5)(f) of the Airports Act state that an airport lease complies with the subsection if, in the case of Sydney West Airport, the lease provides for the development of the site as an airport or the use of the site as an airport, or both whether or not the lease also provides for other developments or other uses; if so, (a) what is the rationale behind this provision and (b) will the provision be repealed.
- (4) Will he make provisions in granting a lease for Sydney Airport that the lease provides for the development of the site for Sydney West Airport.
- (5) Will he recommend a site other than Badgery's Creek as the site for Sydney West Airport; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (6) Can an operator-lease for Sydney Airport be drafted without reference to provisions in that lease for the development of the site for Sydney West Airport.
- (7) For the purposes of section 16 of the Airports Act, who are (a) the airport-lessee companies and (b) the airport-management companies for (i) those airports listed in subsection 7(1) of the Act and (ii) any other airport in Australia.
- (8) Will he repeal or amend section 16 of the Act.
- (9) Does section 18 of the Act state that the Commonwealth must not grant an airport lease under section 13 of the Act, or section 22 of the Airports (Transitional) Act, for KSA or Sydney West Airport unless each of the airport-lessee companies is a subsidiary of the same company; if so, (a), when will tenders be advertised for the airport-lessee company for KSA and Sydney West Airport and (b) will the Commonwealth ultimately dispose of its shares in the airport-lessee companies and airport-management companies for the airports; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (10) Will he repeal or amend section 18 of the Act.
- (11) What would the financial impact be on the purchase price of KSA if there were no requirement for the operator of Sydney airport to build a second airport in Western Sydney.
- (12) In light of the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, why were alternative sites such as Darkes Forest and Wilton not included in the Environmental Impact Statement on Bankstown Airport.

2306 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he able to say whether the introduction of high speed train services in Europe have led to European airline operators reducing or cutting regional airline services that operate on the same routes as the new train services.
- (2) Is he able to say whether the introduction of high speed trains in Australia would reduce the demand for flights into and out of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA).
- (3) Is he able to say whether variants of the now cancelled high speed trains proposed between Sydney and Canberra run in France, Spain, England, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Switzerland and Italy and will soon be in operation in the United States and Korea.
- (4) Why has the Government withdrawn from the high speed train proposal.

- (5) Can he provide data showing that the building of a high speed train network would be more economically viable than encouraging the growth in air transport.
- (6) Can he provide data of the projected price of import fuel and import aircraft costs for the next ten and twenty years and provide comparative costs of railway equipment.
- (7) Was part of the Speedrail proposal a plan to extend the line to Melbourne and eventually to Brisbane.
- (8) If the Speedrail proposal had proceeded, would it have put 75% of Australians within 90 minutes travel time of a major city.
- (9) Would the projected number of jobs that would have been created during the construction of the Speedrail link have reached, or exceeded, 15 000.
- (10) Is travelling by train safer than travel by car or aircraft.
- (11) Is he aware of transport safety statistical comparisons between road, rail and aircraft; if so, what are the names of those studies.
- (12) Is he aware that researchers in the US have found that travelling by train is 6800 times safer than travelling by road and that similar figures also apply for a comparison between air and train travel.
- (13) What measures will be put in place to promote the construction of a Very High Speed Train service between Sydney and Melbourne.
- (14) Is it a fact that (a) railway equipment is largely locally manufactured and (b) most aircraft are imported at high cost.
- (15) Is he able to say whether Speedrail had forecast a net economic benefit from the project of \$5.3 billion measured in tax payments, new employment, savings on highway construction and reductions in pollution, highway fatalities and greenhouse emissions.

2307 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Will Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA) not be privatised until the noise pollution problems at the airport have been permanently resolved, consistent with the Government's "Putting People First" policy.
- (2) Is the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) for KSA still to be fully implemented.
- (3) Under the LTOP, what is the average percentage of aircraft movements to the north, west and east of the airport for the last three years, individually and in aggregate.
- (4) Is the Government in receipt of advice from Airservices Australia that the LTOP for KSA is unsafe or unworkable.
- (5) Do Sydney residents receive more aircraft noise now than before the LTOP was introduced.
- (6) Are Sydney residents more at risk of aircraft crashes since the LTOP was introduced.
- (7) Can the LTOP be fully implemented with the Government's proposed expansion of Sydney Airport and Bankstown Airport; if not, why not.

2308 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Is he aware of the increased health risks to local residents around Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport and Port Botany from long term exposure to toxic emissions associated with road transport travelling to and from the airport.

2309 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In terms of compliance with Australian aircraft noise standard AS 2021, has the Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA) aircraft noise insulation project fallen behind relative to the increase in aircraft noise impact.
- (2) Can he provide details of anticipated future aircraft noise and traffic congestion at KSA for 2010.
- (3) Is it a fact that the KSA noise insulation project was supposed to have by now insulated residences against 2010 levels of noise to the AS 2021 standard; if not, at what standard is noise insulation supposed to be afforded to Sydney residents.
- (4) Did the November 1995 Senate Select Committee on Aircraft Noise in Sydney recommend that a new authorised maximum capacity contour map for KSA be prepared to apply both to the acquisition and noise insulation scheme (p.264) and that the noise insulation scheme be extended to all residences within the 25 ANEF contour as included on the maximum capacity map (p265); if so, (a) has the new authorised maximum capacity contour map for KSA has been prepared and (b) will he provide (i) a copy of the map and accompanying working documents and (ii) details of how and when the noise insulation will be implemented.
- (5) Did the November 1995 Senate Select Committee on Aircraft Noise in Sydney recommend that noise monitoring at Australian airports should be independently supervised by the Commonwealth Environment Protection Agency (p.274); if so, has the recommendation been, or will it be implemented; if not, why not.
- (6) How many residences in the Sydney metropolitan area are located within the Year 2000 25 ANEF contour.
- (7) How many residences in the Sydney metropolitan area have thus far been insulated within the noise insulation scheme.
- (8) Have all these residences been insulated in compliance with the Australian Standard for Aircraft Noise in Residences (AS 2021).
- (9) Will he guarantee that there will be no watering down of the existing AS 2021.
- (10) Will he never permit the entry into Australian airspace any of the American hush-kitted jets that the European Union is to ban from European airports in the near future; if not, why not.

2310 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can he provide air toxic emissions data and risk analysis covering specific known carcinogens and toxins, including but not restricted to (a) benzene, (b) 1-3 butadiene and (c) toluene generated by total airport operations at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA) and Bankstown Airport during 2000.

- (2) Is he able to say whether Sydney Airport Corporation Limited's (SACL) claim of insignificant health risks from exposure to emissions around Sydney airport during the Commission of Inquiry into the Precision Runway Monitoring (PRM) System north of KSA, excluded measurement of the health risk north of Sydney airport and did not assess risk from long term exposure to specific transport-emission related carcinogens such as benzene, 1-3 butadiene and toluene.
- (3) Is he able to say whether, according to the NSW Cancer Council, the highest occurrence area for lung cancer in the eastern half of the Sydney basin is concentrated around Sydney Airport and Port Botany.
- (4) Can he provide evidence in support of SACL's claim during the March 2000 PRM Inquiry that its two air pollution monitors recorded no significant change in air emissions since 1992.
- (5) Can he verify whether SACL's finding of insignificant risk on the basis of the monitoring data used in this assessment is applicable for inner western Sydney suburbs downwind of Sydney airport.
- (6) Can he provide air toxic emissions data and risk analysis covering specific known carcinogens and toxins, including (a) benzene, (b) 1-3 butadiene and (c) toluene generated by total airport operations at KSA and Bankstown Airport during 2010 to reflect the metropolitan area impacts of the publicised scenarios of (i) removing regional aircraft from KSA, (ii) increasing the numbers of jet operations at KSA and (iii) expanding Bankstown Airport.
- (7) Can he quantify what lung cancer risk in the Sydney metropolitan area is attributable to toxic transport emissions, in view of the reported 53% risk factor quoted by the US Environment Protection Agency for the Minneapolis St Paul metropolitan area, and also in view of the closed-basin nature of the Sydney metropolitan area, and the relatively high level of benzene in Australian motor vehicle fuel by world standards.

2311 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Is he able to say what is the probability of an aircraft crashing over populated areas of Sydney.

2312 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he aware of best practice in airport environmental management and sustainable airport development.
- (2) What constitutes best practice in airport environmental management.
- (3) What is the definition “environmental capacity” for Australian airports.
- (4) Can he quantify the environmental capacity of Sydney Airport.
- (5) In which year was, or will, the environmental capacity for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA) be reached.
- (6) How will environmental capacity influence future KSA development decisions.
- (7) Where an airport cannot fully compensate residents in compliance with Australian standards, guidelines or regulations for noise, toxic air emissions, and other relevant Australian quality standards, can it be said to have exceeded its environmental capacity.

- (8) In view of Airports Council International's recommendations regarding the achievement of long-term sustainable development for airports, can he quantify the maximum level of environmental impacts of Sydney Airport beyond which he will not allow further expansion.
 - (9) Did Mr Tony Stuart, CEO, in Sydney Airport Corporation Limited's November 1999 'Environment Strategy' document, state that Sydney Airport's mission is to be a world class airport for Sydney, NSW and Australia; if so, does the mission remain unchanged.
 - (10) Will he give details, prior to approval of privatisation in accordance with the Coalition's "Putting People First" policy, of the Government's 'total-airport' environmental management strategy for KSA; if not, why not.
- 2313 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did Environment Australia find in its July 1999 Second Sydney Airport Environmental Assessment Report (pp. 5-4) that the 1985 site selection environmental impact statement ranked Wilton as second overall of the ten sites short listed and the favoured site outside the Sydney basin and that Wilton must rank well as an alternative site to Badgerys Creek; if so, can he provide technical reasons for his exclusion of Wilton and Darkes Forest from consideration as potential new airport sites for Sydney.
 - (2) Will he recall from schools all copies of the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited's document titled: 'Sydney Airport Australia's International Gateway teachers and students booklets—Human Society and Its Environment Curriculum support materials: Stage 3', on the grounds that it contains biased, misleading and incomplete information.
- 2314 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has he received any contributions or gifts from vested corporate interests in Sydney Airport Corporation and Bankstown Airport Corporation and their related ground transport infrastructure; if so, what are the details.
 - (2) Is he able to say whether his family, other Ministers or his political party have received contributions or gifts from vested corporate interests in Sydney Airport Corporation and Bankstown Airport Corporation and their related ground transport infrastructure; if so, what are the details.
- 2315 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In respect to the planned expansion of Bankstown Airport, will the movements of larger jets interfere with the air space management of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA); if so, will KSA aircraft safety be further compromised.
 - (2) In the event that the environmental impact statement on the Bankstown Airport proposal shows it is not feasible to implement the Federal Cabinet's proposal, will the Government revisit the site selection process for a major second Sydney airport.
- 2316 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Do many airports now ban aircraft that do not comply with noise levels as described in Chapter 3 of Annex 16, Volume I of the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

- (2) Do the airports include (a) Montreal (Dorval) and Toronto (Lester B Pearson) in international airports Canada, (b) Ruzyne (Prague) Airport in the Czech Republic, (c) Copenhagen Airport Roskilde in Denmark, (d) Lappeenranta Airport in Finland, (e) Charles de Gaulle Airport in France, (f) Dresden, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hannover-Langenhagen, Cologne-Bonn, Munich, Paderborn-Lippstadt, Schonefeld, Tegel and Tempelhof airports in Germany, (g) Alghero Airport (Milan) in Italy, (h) Luxembourg International Airport in Luxembourg, (i) Schiphol Airport in The Netherlands, (j) Oslo Gardermoen Airport in Norway, (k) Biggen Hill, Gatwick, Heathrow, Kent, London City, Southampton and Stanstead airports in the UK and (l) John Wayne-Orange County, Santa Monica, Aspen-Pitkin County/Sardy Field, Ronald Reagan National and Jackson Hole airports in the USA.
- (3) Are Chapter 3 aircraft 50% quieter than the aircraft presently allowed in Sydney Airport.
- (4) Will Sydney be added to the list of countries banning aircraft that do not comply with noise levels as described in Chapter 3 of Annex 16, Volume 1 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation; if so, when; if not, why not
- (5) Is he able to say whether the World Health Organization has suggested a standard guideline value for average outdoor noise levels of 55 dB(A) be applied during normal daytime in order to prevent significant interference with the normal activities of local communities; if so, how many people at any time in the Sydney area are likely to be affected by aircraft noise levels that exceed this level.
- (6) Is he able to say whether the OECD, in 1986, reported thresholds for noise nuisance as being (in day-time LAeq) (a) noise exposure at 55-60 dB(A) noise creates annoyance, (b) noise exposure at 60-65 dB(A) annoyance increases considerably and (c) noise exposure above 65 dB(A) constrained behaviour patterns, symptomatic of serious damage caused by noise.
- (7) How many people at any one time in the Sydney area are likely to be affected by aircraft noise levels that exceed these levels.

2317 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Are only Australian pilots trained in the Precision Runway Monitoring (PRM) System operating at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport; if so, why are non-Australian Pilots not trained in PRM.

2318 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did the former Minister for Transport and Regional Development issue a Media Statement T3/98 on 14 January 1998 titled Noise Sharing Improvements for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA).
- (2) Does paragraph 4 of that media statement speak of an agreement reached between the Minister and Airservices Australia concerning noise-sharing improvements at KSA.
- (3) What was the nature of the agreement made between Airservices Australia and the then Minister.

- (4) Was the agreement in writing; if so, were any of the documents that formed the agreement generally made available to the public at the time of the making of the agreement.
- (5) Is he able to say what is the source of the revised procedures as stated against the four descriptors contained in paragraph 4 of the then Minister's Media Statement T3/98.
- (6) Will he provide copies of all of the documents that collectively make up the agreement; if not, why not.
- (7) Will he provide a copy of any internal correspondence, including background notes, between his Department and Airservices Australia regarding this agreement.
- (8) What are the current distribution arrangements for Airservices Australia background notes and if they are different today, what were the distribution arrangements for Airservices Australia background notes in 1998.
- (9) For the twelve months to January 2001 on weekdays, what was the percentage of time that noise-sharing modes were used for air traffic at KSA for the full hour between 0600Hr and 0700Hr inclusive.
- (10) What percentage of time that noise-sharing modes for air traffic at KSA was not possible due to weather impacts.
- (11) What other factors affected the non-use of noise-sharing modes during this period.
- (12) For the twelve months to January 2001 on weekdays, what was the percentage of time that noise-sharing modes were used for air traffic at KSA at 1100Hr.
- (13) What percentage of time that noise-sharing modes for air traffic at KSA was not possible due to weather impacts between 1100Hr and 1500Hr inclusive.
- (14) What other factors affected the non-use of noise-sharing modes during this period.
- (15) For the last twelve months on the weekdays "weather permitting", has the use of a noise-sharing mode continued to and beyond 1500 hours about 25% of the time.
- (16) For the twelve months to January 2001 on weekdays, what was the percentage of time that noise-sharing modes were used for air traffic at KSA from 2000Hr till curfew.
- (17) What percentage of time that noise-sharing modes for air traffic at KSA was not possible due to weather impacts during this period.
- (18) What other factors affected the non-use of noise-sharing modes during this period.
- (19) Are callers to the Noise Inquiry unit in relation to the operations of air traffic at KSA, when calling about the lack of the agreed change, frequently advised the reason for the failure to change to a noise-sharing mode is 'due traffic'; if so, what are the top ten reasons for the failure to change to the noise-sharing modes at the agreed times.
- (20) Is the repeated failure of Airservices Australia to achieve the agreed change to noise-sharing modes and the constant use of the excuse 'due traffic' at

odds with the statement made in Media Statement T3/98 that, weather permitting, noise sharing modes based on the use of all three runways will be used irrespective of forecast traffic demand.

2319 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Drummoyne Post Office to close; if so, when.
- (2) Is the Drummoyne Post Office to be amalgamated with another Post Office or another business.
- (3) Will any amalgamation of the Drummoyne Post Office result in any diminution of postal or other services, particularly to constituents living in Drummoyne; if so, which services will be affected.

2320 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Will he outline the Government's process to be followed concerning the proposed sale of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA).
- (2) By what date would the Government prefer KSA to be sold.
- (3) Is he aware of the corporate structure of Westralia Airports Corporation Pty Limited.
- (4) Is it permissible for those persons who hold an equity interest in (a) Westralia Airports Corporation Pty Limited, (b) Airstralia Development Group, (c) Airport Group International Holdings or (d) any other airport-lessee and airport-management company in Australia to hold equity interest in another airport-lessee or airport-management company in Australia.
- (5) Subject to the provisions contained in the Airports Act, is it possible for a person holding an equity interest in an airport-lessee or airport-management company to also hold an equity interest in another airport-lessee or airport-management company.
- (6) Is an airport-lessee or airport-management company eligible to sell shares in those companies on the Australian Stock Exchange.

2321 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Under what circumstances and with what legal authority is Centrelink able to take action to recover overpayments from minors.
- (2) With regard to recovery action for overpaid youth allowances, is it Centrelink's practice to (a) seek repayments from minors who have neither savings nor current incomes and (b) seek repayments directly from minors, even in cases where a parent elected to receive the allowance on behalf of the minor; if so, on what grounds is Centrelink able to take this action.
- (3) Will he direct Centrelink to ensure that unemployed minors who are the subject of recovery action for overpaid allowances (a) are given high priority for job placement or job training and (b) have their repayments deferred until they are employed or in receipt of jobsearch or another appropriate allowance; if not, why not.
- (4) Will he direct Centrelink to ensure that, when benefits are granted, beneficiaries are notified in writing of the actions, including possible court proceedings, that may be taken in order to recover overpayments.

2322 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the December 2000 issue of *Major Mail Users*, the mail industry magazine.
- (2) Did Australia Post go to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to try to prevent a home delivery mail service being privately established on Lord Howe Island.
- (3) Is it a fact that Australia Post does not provide a home delivery service for mail or parcels on Lord Howe Island, meaning the island's residents have to collect their mail from the post office.
- (4) Is the purpose of Australia Post's letter delivery monopoly and associated community service obligation to endeavour to ensure that a home delivery service is provided to as many Australian homes as possible.
- (5) If so, what is the point of Australia Post seeking to enforce its monopoly power to provide a service which it is itself unwilling or unable to provide.

2323 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Since the election of the Howard government in 1996, what sum has been spent each year on the National Highway and for what projects.
- (2) For those projects, what are the (a) anticipated completion dates, (b) State contributions, (c) Federal contributions and (d) total project cost.
- (3) What are the Federal electorates which have all, or part of, the projects in them and what is the party affiliation of the Member representing that electorate.
- (4) Which projects have attracted a toll.

2324 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 557 (*Hansard*, 12 May 1999, page 5321) in which it is stated the only other claims of inappropriate disciplinary action involve another Army unit at Holsworthy, was the unit referred to 3RAR; if so, what prevented the unit from being named in the answer.
- (2) When was the first time that the inappropriate disciplinary action was brought to the attention of the relevant Minister.
- (3) Who was that Minister.
- (4) Was the Minister or his or her staff briefed on the matter by either the ADF or the Department of Defence; if so, on what dates and by whom.
- (5) What if any ministerial directions were issued by the Minister, on what date and to what effect.
- (6) When was he or his ministerial staff first briefed on the 3RAR Affair and by whom.
- (7) What ministerial directions were issued, when and to what effect.
- (8) On what subsequent occasions was he or his staff briefed on the 3RAR Affair.
- (9) What if any ministerial directions were issued, when and to what effect.
- (10) Was Minister Moore or his staff briefed on the 3RAR Affair; if so, when and by whom.

- (10) Did Minister Moore or his staff issue or provide any directions; if so when and to what effect.

2325 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 557 (*Hansard*, 12 May 1999, page 5321), in which it is stated that the military police were investigating claims made against another unit at Holsworthy since September 1998, were the military police given terms of reference; if so, (a) by whom and (b) what were they.
- (2) Were the military police investigating individual incidences at 3RAR; if so, how many.
- (3) What were the ranks of the (a) perpetrators and (b) victims.
- (4) Were all the available reports and evidence provided to the military police; if so, what was provided; if not, what was withheld and why.
- (5) At any point in its inquiry, did the military police form the view that there may have been a culture of violence.
- (6) At any stage of its inquiry did the military police put the view to 3RAR Command that there was a culture of violence in 3RAR, if so when and to what effect.
- (7) Was the military police investigation truncated in any way; if so, how and on whose authority.

2326 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 557 (*Hansard*, 12 May 1999, page 5321), was the military police investigation into the majority of the allegations completed as stated by the end of May 1999; if not, why not.
- (2) Did the former Minister or his staff direct that the investigation should be wrapped up; if not, who ordered the investigation to be wrapped up, when all allegations had not been investigated.
- (3) What were the allegations that were either not investigated or subject to continuing investigation.
- (4) Were any of the minority allegations investigated by the military police; if not, by whom were they investigated.
- (5) When were the minority investigations concluded and with what outcome.

2327 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When was HMAS *Westralia* commissioned.
- (2) At the time of commissioning, (a) did HMAS *Westralia* meet the relevant civilian Occupational, Health and Safety requirements for oil tankers; if not, why not and in what way was it deficient, (b) what was provided for the sailors to escape in in the event of an emergency and (c) would the sailors have survived in the case of fire surrounding the ship.
- (3) At the time of the fire on board HMAS *Westralia*, (a) did HMAS *Westralia* meet the relevant civilian Occupational, Health and Safety requirements for oil tankers; if not, why not and in what way was it deficient, (b) what was provided for the sailors to escape in in the event of an emergency and (c) would the sailors have survived in the case of fire surrounding the ship.

- (4) If changes were made between the commissioning and the fire, who authorised them and when.
- (5) How are Navy Occupational Health and Safety Standards determined and how are they reviewed.

2328 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1781 (*Hansard*, 10 October 2000, page 21204) and the Trotter Report, when was the Trotter Report finalised and accepted.
- (2) What were the deficiencies in administration and training identified by the report.
- (3) What were the recommendations of the report.
- (4) Were any recommendations rejected; if so, which recommendations and why.
- (5) How are the recommendations being implemented and in what time frame.

2329 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1782 (*Hansard*, 12 October 2000, page 21551), have any of the families written to the Chief of Navy concerning the awarding of bravery medals and awards arising from the Westralia tragedy; if so, how many.
- (2) Who were awarded bravery medals and awards for the Westralia tragedy and what was the citation.
- (3) Did Navy make a submission for an award or medal associated with the Westralia tragedy that was not granted.

2330 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the release of the Defence White Paper, are the Army Reserves to be re tasked; if so, in what way.
- (2) Was an Army Reserve Conference held in Canberra in 2000; if so, what were the outcomes.
- (3) Under what circumstances will reservists be utilised to fill slots in the Regular Army (so called “Slot Theory”).
- (4) Has any commitment been made to utilise the Army Reserve in formed units; if so, when, by whom and to what degree.
- (5) Has any recent study or project been undertaken to better utilise the Army Reserve; if so, (a) when and when was it completed and (b) is it publically available.
- (6) Has there been any change to the readiness requirements of the Army Reserve; if so, what change.
- (7) Are there increased training requirements of the Army Reserve; if so, what.

2331 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he able to say which states have (a) signed the 1995 Unidroit Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects, (b) ratified the Convention or (c) acceded to the Convention since his answer to question No. 1786 (*Hansard*, 3 October 2000, page 20676).

- (2) Is he able to say what progress has been made in the UK since his answer to question No. 1786 on the recommendation that the British Government should sign the Convention and facilitate early ratification of it.
- (3) On what dates have the relevant Departments and agencies met to consider accession by Australia since his answer to question No. 2436 (*Hansard*, 2 March 1998, page 147).
- (4) On what dates have there been consultations with State and Territory governments regarding accession since his answer to question No. 2436.

2332 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) What financial contribution is the Government making to the establishment of the new Holden V6 engine plant in Melbourne from (a) the Automotive Competitiveness and Investment Scheme (ACIS), (b) research and development funding, (c) import duty concessions and (d) other budget programs.
- (2) Were these commitments determined in consultation with the Victorian Government; if so, what are the details of the State financial contribution to the project.
- (3) What is the total ACIS funding for which Holden is expected to be eligible over the next five years.
- (4) Is public funding for the new engine plant the equivalent of \$295,000 per job created, as reported in the media.
- (5) Given the extent of the public funding contribution, will the Government (a) withdraw its contribution and directly grant each of the engine plant workers \$295,000 or (b) buy-out the entire plant and bring it into full public ownership and control.

2333 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Reconciliation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—

- (1) Did Australia on 30 October 1989 accept the Unesco 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.
- (2) Has he noted the recommendations of the Illicit Trade Advisory Panel in a report to the British Arts Minister on 18 December 2000 that the UK should accede to the Convention.
- (3) What progress has been made since the answer to question No. 1674 (*Hansard*, 31 August 2000, page 19963) in returning Indigenous human remains from the UK to Australian Indigenous communities.

2334 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1160 (*Hansard*, 28 June 2000, page 18561), where a person claims a disability pension or service pension from his Department (DVA), does the claim form ask the claimant to indicate dates of service in Australia's armed services; if so, is this information then recorded for each claimant on the DVA claim, rejection or payment record.

- (2) If so, are dates of service and the data of service record used to present data in Tables 10 to 14 in the regularly issued DVA publication, *DVA Pensioner Summary*.
- (3) If so, why is it not possible to also present information about claims, grants and rejections for disability pensioners by conflict.
- (4) Where a person lodges an appeal with the Veterans' Review Board (VRB) in respect of a decision made by the DVA about a disability pension, does the VRB system that monitors the details of each appellant record for each claimant the dates of service in Australia's armed services; if so, why is it not possible to present the number of veterans' disability pension appeals and the results of such appeals by conflict.

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2335 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Was the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court adopted in Rome on 17 July 1998.
- (2) Was the Statute signed for Australia, subject to ratification, on 9 December 1998.
- (3) Which other states have (a) signed and (b) ratified the Statute, and on what dates did they do so.
- (4) Is his Department the lead agency in developing the legislation to implement the Statute.
- (5) What is the timetable for the introduction of the legislation.

2336 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—Further to the Government's announcement of a loans scheme for postgraduate courses, (a) will the scheme include scope for an upfront payment with a discount, (b) will the loans be repaid concurrently with HECS repayments and (c) what measures will the Government introduce to ensure that such a scheme does not lead to universities increasing the level of postgraduate fees.

MR L. D. T. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2337 - 2338)—For each year from 1995-96, what was the level of funding provided by the Minister's portfolio for elements of the 1995 Wood and Paper Industry Strategy, including (a) innovation and research and development activities of the Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Corporation and the Industry Research and Development Board, (b) AusIndustry enterprise development assistance, (c) research and improved access to information on plantation resources and wood markets, (d) Farm Forestry Program, (e) North Queensland Community Rainforest Reforestation Program, (f) development of sustainability criteria and indicators under the Montreal process and (g) funding and secretariat support for the Wood and Paper Industry Council.

2337 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources.

2338 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation.

2339 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) What level of funding has the Government allocated to its Forest and Wood Products Industry Action Agenda for 2000-2001.
 - (2) From which appropriation item(s) is this funding to be provided.
 - (3) What funding provision, if any, is made in the Budget forward estimates for the Action Agenda.
- 2340 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) What funding did the Commonwealth provide for the National Forest Inventory for (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99 and (d) 1999-2000.
 - (2) What is the funding allocation for the National Forest Inventory for 2000-2001.
 - (3) From which appropriation item(s) is this funding provided.
- 2341 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) In respect of each signed Regional Forest Agreement (RFA), (a) how many annual progress reports have been received to date by the Commonwealth and (b) what was the date on which each report was received.
 - (2) In respect of each RFA for which an annual progress report has to date not been received, when does the Commonwealth expect to receive the first annual report from the relevant State Government.
- 2342 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) Who are the members of the Government's Forest and Wood Products Council and which organisation does each member represent.
 - (2) What is the operating budget for the Council for 2001-2002 and from which appropriation item are these costs being met.
 - (3) How many meetings has the Council held to date and what was the date and agenda for each meeting.
- 2343 **MR McLEAY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Has there been a rise in the incidence of tuberculosis in Australia recently.
 - (2) Over the last ten years has there been an increase in the number of individual cases; if so, to what is the increase attributed.
 - (3) Will he provide a State by State breakdown of the number of cases of tuberculosis notified over the last ten years.
- 2344 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1758 (*Hansard*, 6 February 2001, page 20887) regarding the proposed Murrumbateman by-pass, (a) who is the author of the letter referred to in the first paragraph of the letter, (b) to whom is it written, (c) on what date was it written and (d) is a copy of that letter publicly available; if so, where.
 - (2) With respect to that part of the answer which states that apart from a small section of Council-owned land the entire route remains in private ownership, what area of land was resumed by the then Department of Main Roads in 1969 from the properties "Hawthorne", "Vale View", "Merryville" and "Hillview" for the stated purpose of an ultimate dual carriageway.

- (3) When will the Preferred Route Selection Report completed by Connell Wagner Pty Ltd be formally released for public consideration.
- (4) How many public sector Departments and agencies have been consulted in the preparation of the Connell Wagner Report and of these organisations, have any expressed a dissenting opinion from the recommendation in the report; if so, (a) how many and (b) which Departments and agencies.
- (5) When will he make a decision on the preferred route for the Murrumbateman by-pass.

2345 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Will an environmental impact statement (EIS) be carried out into the proposed extension and introduction of scheduled passenger jet flights at Bankstown Airport.
- (2) Did the EIS for a Second Sydney Airport describe Bankstown's 450 000 movements in its peak year as approximately the full capacity of the airport.
- (3) What impact will the introduction of scheduled jet flights have on the more than 200 000 training flights each year from Bankstown.
- (4) How many additional training flights can be expected to be transferred to Hoxton Park airport which the Second Sydney Airport EIS describes as an overflow airport for Bankstown.
- (5) Will the restriction which limits the use of Hoxton Park to aircraft of less than 1350kg remain in place.
- (6) Will a private operator of Hoxton Park airport be required to provide a control tower if additional flights are to be permitted above the limit which has already been reached of 115 000 movements per year for an uncontrolled airport.
- (7) Will Camden airport be sold as part of the package which includes Bankstown and Hoxton Park airports.
- (8) Why has Camden airport not been suggested as taking up air traffic from Bankstown when the Second Sydney Airport EIS describes Camden as an overflow airport for Bankstown.
- (9) Is he able to say whether the Prime Minister has suggested that training flight overflow from Bankstown airport would be handled by Hoxton Park and Canberra airports and not Camden airport; if so, why.
- (10) How much of the Hoxton Park airport site is required for the construction of the Western Sydney Orbital Road.
- (11) What restrictions will the development of the Western Sydney Orbital Road place on expansion of Hoxton Park airport.
- (12) What runway upgrading and extension would be necessary at Bankstown airport for scheduled flights of Boeing 737 and 717 aircraft.
- (13) Will he release planned flight paths for scheduled passenger jet aircraft at Bankstown airport; if not, when will the proposed flight paths be released.
- (14) Have ANEC noise contour projections been prepared for scheduled jet aircraft operations at Bankstown airport; if so, when will they be released; if not, when will they be prepared and released.

- (15) What curfew restrictions currently apply to operations at Bankstown and Hoxton Park airports.
- (16) What curfew restrictions will apply to scheduled jet flights at Bankstown airport.
- (17) What community consultation process will take place before scheduled jet aircraft operations are planned to commence at Bankstown airport.

2346 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are Australia's armed forces issued with armaments containing depleted uranium; if so, (a) where is this material stored and (b) what special measures are taken with the material.
- (2) Do members of Australia's armed forces come into contact with depleted uranium materials when operating with the armed forces of other countries.
- (3) Are any procedures laid down for members of Australia's armed forces dealing with depleted uranium materials.
- (4) Has his attention been drawn to concerns raised in the armed forces of some European countries which point to leukemia and other cancer related deaths among personnel who had served in Bosnia and came into contact with depleted uranium materials.
- (5) What steps is the Australian Defence Force taking to monitor the health of existing and former defence personnel, including civilians, which could detect the effects of exposure to materials such as depleted uranium.

2347 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is it a fact that under the New Tax System (GST) provisions, veterans on a Disability Pension Special Rate do not receive a full sales tax exemption when purchasing a motorcycle.
- (2) Prior to the introduction of the GST, did veterans on a Disability Pension Special Rate receive full sales tax exemption when purchasing any type of motor vehicle.
- (3) Has the definition of the type of motor vehicle purchased by veterans on a Disability Pension Special Rate been amended to exclude the purchase of a motorcycle; if so, why.
- (4) What is the estimated saving to the Government from the exclusion of motorcycles from the sales tax exemption for veterans on a Disability Pension Special Rate.

2348 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) What procedure is being followed to choose the Australian delegates to the 13th Asian Regional Meeting of the ILO to be held in Bangkok on 25 to 28 September 2001.
- (2) When are the names and qualifications of the delegates to be announced.
- (3) Has the ILO identified eight fundamental conventions.
- (4) Which of the fundamental Conventions has been ratified by members of the ILO Asian Region, and on what dates.

- 2349 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—What have been the dates, modes and substance of the consultations between the Federal, State and Territory Governments concerning ILO Convention No. 182, Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour since the Submission Report on ILO Instruments Adopted in 1999 Convention 182 concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labour; Recommendation 190 concerning the Worst Form of Child Labour 30 November 2000 was tabled on 7 December 2000.
- 2350 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Does the Government regard any of the ILOs health and safety Conventions listed in the answer to question No. 2084 (*Hansard*, 7 February 2001, page 21049) as appropriate, in whole or in part, for the Australian States.
 - (2) Does the Constitution for the ILO require the Government to arrange for periodical consultations between the Federal and State authorities with a view to promoting coordinated action to give effect to the provisions of such Conventions.
 - (3) What were the dates, modes and outcome of the last consultation held by Minister Reith, with each of the States in respect to each Convention.
 - (4) What arrangements is he making with each of the States for consultation in respect to each Convention.
- 2351 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Is no further funding available for community drug rehabilitation programs from the National Illicit Drug Strategy.
 - (2) What will happen to the proposed third round of the community drug rehabilitation program.
 - (3) How many grants from the first or second rounds were made to drug rehabilitation agencies in the electoral division of Melbourne Ports.
- 2352 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Why has Brazil been included by his Department as a risk factor in the assessment of visitor visa criteria within the Migration Regulations.
 - (2) When was this decision made.
 - (3) Given that European countries have implemented visa free travel arrangements for Brazil, what evidence is there to suggest that elimination of the risk factor for Brazilians would increase the number of over stayers in Australia.
 - (4) What assurance can he give that this decision will not damage Australia's reputation as a tourist destination for Brazilians.

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- 2353 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Under what circumstances are civilian Defence employees who are serving overseas as part of a peace monitoring mission entitled to a special taxation rebate.

- (2) Is the rebate available to civilian personnel who served, or are serving, with (a) the INTERFET force in East Timor between September 1999 and February 2000, (b) the UNTAET mission in East Timor after 23 February 2000, (c) the Bougainville Peace Monitoring Group and (d) in support of Australian Defence Force activities in the Solomon Islands.
- (3) If not, what action is the Government taking to address the anomaly.

2354 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is he able to say whether the US Environment Protection Agency categorised diesel exhaust soot as a likely carcinogen.
- (2) Has the Defence Safety Management Agency since reassessed the health and safety risks associated with the use of Defence's M113 armoured personnel carriers (APCs); if so, what were the results of its assessment.
- (3) What systems are in place to monitor the health status of personnel serving on M113 APCs.

2355 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—How many Defence Reserves training depots were in use in each State and Territory as at (a) March 1996, (b) October 1998 and (c) February 2001.

2356 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel have served for any period in the Balkans since 1993 on secondment to the armed forces of (a) the United Kingdom, (b) the United States and (c) other allied countries.
- (2) Of the personnel referred to in part (1), how many served in (a) Kosovo, (b) Bosnia-Herzegovina and (c) other locations in the Balkans.
- (3) What specific medical screening is being offered to ADF personnel who served in the Balkans to establish if they have suffered from exposure to depleted uranium.
- (4) Is it proposed to take and store DNA samples from the personnel concerned; if so, how will it be ensured that these samples are not accessed for other purposes.

2357 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What amount of GST Start-Up Assistance money was paid to the Tourism Council of Australia (TCA).
- (2) On what dates were the grants paid to the TCA.
- (3) What amount of the grant funding paid to the TCA remains unspent.
- (4) What due diligence did Treasury undertake to determine the TCA's solvency before the payment of the grant.
- (5) How does his Department intend to recoup the unspent grant funds.

2358 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Have there been any positive developments in relation to a fair resolution of the matter regarding the virtual ban on Australian businesses from tendering for projects surrounding the 2004 Athens Olympic Games.
- (2) Has he had any response to the letters he wrote to the European Union and to the Government of Greece in relation to this matter.

- (3) Is the Government planning any further initiatives with regard to solving this problem of discrimination against Australian businesses by the Athens Olympic authorities.

2359 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Has he made statements rejecting an alternative approach to detention, known as the Swedish Model, before a full evaluation could be made of this model; if so, why.
- (2) Are his decisions based on the assumed high cost of the Swedish Model; if so, what was the (a) advice he received as to the likely cost of importing the Swedish Model to Australia and (b) basis of this assessment.
- (3) Will he table in Parliament all documents in his possession relating to the costs of the operation of the model in Sweden.

2360 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) What is the total provision of aged care nursing home and hostel places in the electoral division of Calwell.
- (2) How many of these are (a) private institutions and (b) Government-funded.
- (3) What is the breakdown of these figures in terms of the number of places in each individual facility in the electoral division of Calwell.
- (4) Which of these facilities are characterised as ethnic-specific in that they attempt to service people in languages other than English.

2361 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What is the current Family Court of Australia fee for (a) Application for divorce (Form 4), (b) Application for nullity (Form 2), (c) Application for declaration of validity (Form 6), (d) Application for final orders (Form 3), (e) Response to application for final orders (Form 3A), (f) Notice of appeal to Full Court (Form 42), (g) Notice of appeal from court of summary jurisdiction (Form 43) and (h) Fixing of hearing date (defended matters).
- (2) When were these Family Court of Australia fees most recently increased.
- (3) What was the percentage increase for each fee on each occasion.
- (4) What was each fee prior to its most recent increase.
- (5) When are Family Court fees next scheduled to be increased.
- (6) Is it the case that Family Court fees are regularly increased by changes in the CPI.
- (7) Will the next increase of Family Court fees use CPI figures which include the impact of the inflationary spike caused by the introduction of the GST.

2362 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a recent international study of 750 websites conducted by Consumers International which found that (a) few web sites gave meaningful information about how information collected from consumers would be used, (b) some companies used information to selectively raise prices for some customers and (c) only 10% of 102 children's sites asked children to obtain parental consent before disclosing material online.

- (2) What measures are currently in place to ensure that businesses which collect personal information from consumers via the internet (a) provide information about how information collected from consumers will be used, (b) do not use such information to selectively exploit customers and (c) obtain parental consent before collecting personal information from children.

2363 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the article entitled “How canny ones can abuse system” in the *Australian Financial Review* on 31 January 2001.
- (2) Given the three year rolling average that is used to determine the level of research and development (R&D) spending, how will the Government prevent companies from lowering their expenditure on R&D this year to qualify for a higher proportion of future expenditure.

2364 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) Did the former Minister on 11 November 2000 advise that independent legal advice was being obtained on whether I had committed the offence of champerty by accepting assistance from the Maritime Union to pursue Federal Court proceedings against the former Minister and his Department.
- (2) Has the advice been obtained; if so, (a) from which practitioners and (b) what sum is the Commonwealth liable to pay for the advice.

2365 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Australia Post mail contractors on at least two mail runs to outlying residents in the electoral division of Calare have ceased to deliver newspapers to customers, citing complications with the GST, the Pay As You Go Tax System and requirements of contractual arrangements with Australia Post as the reasons for the cessation of the additional service; if so, what is the Government’s view about this diminution of what many rural residents have come to rely upon as a basic service; if not, have similar concerns been raised with the Minister about other mail runs.
- (2) What practical steps will the Government take to ensure newspapers are again delivered to residents on mail runs who no longer receive them, apparently due to the administrative burden to contractors of the New Tax System.
- (3) Will the Government consider altering Australia Post’s tender requirements to give preference to tenderers who would endeavour to deliver newspapers and other items; if not, why not.

26 February 2001

2366 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) For each state and territory and for each identified business unit (according to the Office of the Employment Advocate (OEA) published organisational

chart) and classification, how many staff are currently employed by the OEA, both in actual numbers and full time equivalent.

- (2) Since 1 July 2000 how many staff ceased employment with the OEA.
- (3) Of the staff who have changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA since 1 July 2000, how many have accepted a (a) promotion within the OEA, (b) promotion within the Australian Public Service (APS), (c) demotion within the OEA, (d) demotion within the APS or (e) position outside the public sector.
- (4) As at 30 June 2000, how many staff were employed by the OEA, both in actual numbers and full time equivalent.
- (5) Between 1 July 1999 and 30 June 2000 how many staff changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA.
- (6) Of the staff who changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA between 1 July 1999 and 30 June 2000, how many accepted a (a) promotion within the OEA, (b) promotion within the APS, (c) demotion within the OEA, (d) demotion within the APS or (e) position outside the public sector.
- (7) As at 30 June 1999, how many staff were employed by the OEA, both in actual numbers and full time equivalent.
- (8) Between 1 July 1998 and 30 June 1999 how many staff changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA.
- (9) Of the staff who changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA between 1 July 1998 and 30 June 1999, how many accepted a (a) promotion within the OEA, (b) promotion within the APS, (c) demotion within the OEA, (d) demotion within the APS or (e) position outside the public sector.
- (10) As at 30 June 1998, how many staff were employed by the OEA, both in actual numbers and full time equivalent.
- (11) Between 1 July 1997 and 30 June 1998 how many staff changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA.
- (12) Of the staff who changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA between 1 July 1997 and 30 June 1998, how many accepted a (a) promotion within the OEA, (b) promotion within the APS, (c) demotion within the OEA, (d) demotion within the APS or (e) position outside the public sector.
- (13) As at 30 June 1997, how many staff were employed by the OEA, both in actual numbers and full time equivalent.
- (14) Between 1 July 1996 and 30 June 1997 how many staff changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA.
- (15) Of the staff who changed classification or ceased employment with the OEA between 1 July 1996 and 30 June 1997, how many accepted a (a) promotion within the OEA, (b) promotion within the APS, (c) demotion within the OEA, (d) demotion within the APS or (e) position outside the public sector.

2367 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer—Is he able to say whether an increasing number of companies have been contacting individuals via unsolicited emails with offers to set up offshore accounts as a means of avoiding tax; if so, what action is being taken to counter this form of tax evasion.

2368 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware of new evidence unearthed by the non-government Documentary Centre of Cambodia of the notorious Tuol Sleng interrogation and detention centre in central Phnom Pehn regarding the presence of Chinese advisers to the Pol Pot regime.
- (2) Has the Australian Embassy in Phnom Pehn or the Australian Chinese Human Rights Dialogue evaluated the photographs and evidence that 10 Chinese advisers provided training to the Pol Pot death squad.
- (3) Is he able to say whether a Chinese Embassy spokesperson Wu Chingshen warned the editors of the capital's English language daily newspaper the *Phnom Pehn Post* of unspeakable negative effects if they published the story.
- (4) Did the Beijing regime in November oppose the proposal of the UN special envoy on human rights to Cambodia to elect a permanent or even *ad hoc* international tribunal on Khmer Rouge genocide.
- (5) Has the Chinese Government taken over much of the suspended Western aid to the Hun Sen Government in Cambodia.
- (6) Has the Hun Sen Government thwarted recent proposals for an international criminal tribunal into the crimes of the Khmer Rouge.

2369 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How long was the St Kilda West Post Office in Fitzroy Street, St Kilda vacant after Australia Post left the premises.
- (2) Did Australia Post pay rent for the premises for the entire period it was vacant.
- (3) What was the commercial rent forgone by the Commonwealth during the period while the St Kilda West Post Office was abandoned.
- (4) Why was the building not sublet during the period.

2370 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Was the notional weekly income amount used to calculate compensation preclusion periods from Centrelink payments increased as a result of the Government's GST compensation package.
- (2) Was the new amount not applied to cases where the compensation preclusion period began before 1 July 2000 and thus any person in this situation was not fully compensated for the GST.
- (3) If the new figure was to be applied to the post 1 July 2000 portion of the compensation preclusion period, would the length of any such preclusion be greatly reduced.
- (4) How many recipients of Centrelink payments have compensation preclusion periods that span the introduction of the GST.
- (5) What is the average length of compensation preclusion period for these cases.

- (6) What would be the average compensation preclusion period if the new, higher, figure was to be applied to the post 1 July 2000 portion of the preclusion period.
- (7) Will the Minister introduce legislation to extend GST compensation to people whose compensation preclusion period spans the introduction of the GST.

2371 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) In respect of the aged care approval rounds in 1998, 1999 and 2000, (a) how many aged care places were allocated to ethno-specific services in each State, (b) how many new aged care places were allocated to ethno-specific services in each State, (c) what percentage of the aged care places allocated to each State were for ethno-specific services and (d) what percentage of the new aged care places allocated to each State were for ethno-specific services.
- (2) In respect of Victoria and the aged care approval rounds in 1998, 1999 and 2000, how many (a) aged care places and (b) new aged care places were allocated to ethno-specific services for the Spanish speaking community.
- (3) In respect of Victoria and the aged care approval rounds in 1998, 1999 and 2000, were any applications received in relation to ethno-specific services for the Spanish speaking community; if so, (a) from whom were applications received, (b) and what was the result of these applications and (c) were any applications rejected; if so, why.

2372 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Must Tasmanian recipients of Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) pensions pay to undergo a driving assessment by Rehabilitation Tasmania, while recipients of Centrelink pensions are provided the service free of charge.
- (2) How many Tasmanian recipients of DVA pensions have had to pay \$400 to undergo a driving assessment in the last three years.
- (3) On what basis does his Department consider this service to be a non-medical service.
- (4) Based on current figures, what would be the anticipated cost to the Commonwealth per annum to reimburse DVA pensioners in Tasmania for this cost.
- (5) Does the Commonwealth propose to take action to address this problem.

2373 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In the lease arrangements for Coolangatta Airport, are there any requirements or commitments as part of the sale arrangements relating to new developments by the new owner.
- (2) Have those requirements or commitments been complied with by the Government and the new airport owner; if not, why not.

2374 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Has the Government announced that it intends to sell Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport separately from the other Sydney basin airports; if so, has he

obtained advice that the sale is entirely consistent with the *Airports Act 1996*.

- (2) Is the intention of Division 3 of the *Airports Act 1996* to provide that a second airport called Sydney West Airport will be commercially leased to the purchaser or lessee of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport thus ensuring that Sydney West Airport is purchased and built.
- (3) Further to his media statement 'Appointment of advisers to conduct the Sydney airports scoping study' released on 18 January 2001, has the Office of Asset Sales and Information Technology Outsourcing, in providing their initial advice on the sale of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport, sought advice from the appointed advisers, Salmon Smith Barney and Freehills, on whether the lease of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport must include provisions to lease Sydney West Airport to the same corporate entity or subsidiary.

27 February 2001

2375 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Does he recognise that hormone replacement therapy (HRT) can provide significant medical benefits for women who (a) require relief for the symptoms of menopause, (b) have undergone partial or complete hysterectomies and (c) are at risk of, and/or suffering from osteoporosis.
- (2) Does he acknowledge that due to negative side effects many women who have had a hysterectomy are unable to take alternative forms of hormone replacement therapy such as estrederm or premarin.
- (3) Is he aware that oestrogen implants are not available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).
- (4) Why are women ineligible for oestrogen implants under the PBS whilst under certain circumstances, men are eligible for testosterone implants under the PBS.
- (5) Will he consider the inclusion of oestrogen implants for PBS listing.

2376 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2145 (*Hansard* 26 February 2001, page 21221), how many medical reports from senior specialists addressing the medical condition of former Senator Malcolm Arthur Colston were submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) on 7 April 1999 by the solicitors acting for Dr Colston and when were the reports dated.
- (2) Following the request by the DPP that Dr Colston be independently examined to assist the Acting Director to assess the submission made on behalf of Dr Colston by his solicitors, can the DPP confirm that on 3 May 1999 Dr Colston's counsel stated in the Supreme Court that Dr Colston had agreed to be so medically examined.
- (3) Can the DPP confirm that, after 3 May 1999, Dr Colston was separately examined by two eminent medical specialists.
- (4) What was the process employed by the DPP to select the independent medical specialists to examine Dr Colston.

- (5) Did an officer of the office of the DPP recommend to the DPP the names of one or both of the eminent specialists to medically examine Dr Colston; if so, what are the qualifications of the officer who made the recommendation to the DPP.
- (6) What are the disciplines of the two eminent specialists selected to examine Dr Colston and what medical qualifications does each specialist possess.
- (7) On what dates did the examinations of Dr Colston by the two eminent specialists take place.
- (8) Is he able to say how Dr Colston was examined, including the nature of the examinations and what was involved in each examination.
- (9) Were written reports of the examinations provided to the DPP.
- (10) What are the dates of the reports.
- (11) Does either report express an opinion on the life expectancy of Dr Colston; if so, is any opinion expressed in weeks, months or years.
- (12) What fees were charged by each specialist for their medical reports.
- (13) Apart from the medical report dated 23 November 2000 provided to the DPP by Dr Colston's solicitors, were any other medical reports on the state of health of Dr Colston provided or obtained by the DPP after the DPP's media statement of 5 July 1999 not to proceed with the prosecution of Dr Colston; if so, (a) how many reports were provided; (b) what are the dates of the reports and (c) what are the medical qualifications of each author of the reports; if other reports were not obtained, why not.
- (14) Does the medical report of 23 November 2000 provided to the DPP by Dr Colston's solicitors indicate any improvement in the state of health of Dr Colston.
- (15) Does the medical report of 23 November 2000 provided to the DPP by Dr Colston's solicitors indicate any deterioration of the state of health of Dr Colston.
- (16) Were any reports obtained by the DPP after 5 July 1999 not provided through Dr Colston's solicitors; if so, (a) how many and (b) what are the dates of the reports.
- (17) Is the DPP aware of media reports on 14 November 2000 that Dr Colston had been admitted to Wesley Private Hospital in Brisbane just days after the office of the DPP announced it was reviewing its decision to drop travel rorts charges against him.
- (18) Is the DPP aware of media reports on 14 November 2000 that sources had revealed that tests had shown cancer had spread to all of Dr Colston's vital organs.
- (19) Has the DPP obtained a copy of any of the medical tests conducted on Dr Colston arising from his admission to Wesley Private Hospital in Brisbane; if not, why not; if so, do the results of those tests indicate a deterioration of Dr Colston's health.
- (20) On what date did the DPP re-open its investigation of Dr Colston's case.
- (21) What was the basis for re-opening the investigation of Dr Colston's case.

- (22) Is Dr Colston now capable of standing trial on the twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts.

2377 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report of a cocktail party at the Australian Embassy in Beijing involving the Member for Farrer during which the Member for Farrer announced Australia's support for the 2008 Olympics being hosted in Beijing.
- (2) Do the Member for Farrer's views officially represent the attitude of the Australian Government.
- (3) Has the Government previously announced its attitude to Beijing hosting the 2008 Olympics.
- (4) Does such an announcement pre-empt the decision and rights of the Australian International Olympic Committee (IOC) delegation to the 2001 Moscow IOC meeting where a decision about the 2008 Olympics will be made.
- (5) Will his Department's China-Australia Human Rights Dialogue be consulted about the Government's attitude towards Beijing hosting the 2008 Olympics.
- (6) If the Australian representatives of the Dialogue have been consulted about the suitability of Beijing as a site for the 2008 Olympics, what was their recommendation.

2378 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) Will the Government's new Postgraduate Loan Education Scheme be made available to Australia's two private universities, Notre Dame University in Fremantle and Bond University on the Gold Coast.
- (2) What reasons can he give for the policy decision in referred to in part (1).

28 February 2001

2379 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he able to say whether the British Government intends to proscribe the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) under the *Anti-Terrorism Act 2000*.
- (2) Is he able to define the criteria upon which an organisation under this Act is so proscribed.
- (3) Is he able to identify the rights upon which an organisation so proscribed may appeal such a decision; if so, (a) what are those rights and (b) what is the procedure to be taken.
- (4) Is he able to identify the grounds upon which the LTTE have been nominated under the Act to be a proscribed organisation.
- (5) What is the Australian Government's declared position in relation to the LTTE.

2380 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Does the unfunded component of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme and the Public Sector Superannuation Schemes (CSS/PSS) trust funds equal approximately \$46 billion; if not, what sum does it represent.
- (2) In relation to the unfunded component of the CSS/PSS trust funds, is he able to say (a) where the unfunded component is held, (b) what sum per annum is placed in the CSS/PSS trust fund, (c) what is the interest on the monies placed in this fund each year, (d) is this interest re-invested, (e) what sum is currently held in the funds, (f) what is the interest on the money currently held in the funds and (g) are funds placed per quarter, half-yearly or annually.
- (3) What are the names of the trustees of the CSS/PSS trust funds.
- (4) Can he briefly describe the responsibilities of the trustees of the CSS/PSS trust funds.

2381 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What have been the consequences on both a national and international scale of the Government's decision to withdraw Australian support for UN Treaty Bodies and Human Rights Committees.
- (2) Has he been in receipt of any official requests for a review of this decision from either international or national bodies; if so, (a) what have been the nature of the requests and (b) has he given any consideration to a change in Australia's position on this matter.

2382 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Reconciliation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—

- (1) Will he outline the Government's intentions with regard to supporting the resolutions made by the February 2001 Indigenous Peoples and Racism Conference in Sydney.
- (2) Has the Government made any decisions to contribute to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and Racism in Durban, South Africa, in September 2001; if so, what will be the nature of the contribution.

1 March 2001

MR SIDEBOTTOM: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2383 - 2401)—

- (1) Is the Minister's Department, or are agencies within the portfolio, large purchasers or consumers of office papers.
- (2) How are Commonwealth procurement guidelines being adhered to by the Minister's Department and agencies within the portfolio.
- (3) What methodology or weighting criteria does the Minister's Department and agencies use to determine the importance of the core principles which underpin the procurement guidelines, namely (a) value for money, (b) open and effective competition, (c) ethics and fair dealing, (d) accountability and reporting, (e) national competitiveness and industry development and (f) support for other Commonwealth policies.
- (4) What weighting criteria are used to implement the mandatory provisions in the guidelines which state that agencies must be able to demonstrate that

Australia New Zealand (ANZ) suppliers have had a fair opportunity to compete.

- (5) In inviting suppliers to tender for the provision of goods, are suppliers advised that they must offer ANZ goods.
- (6) If the Minister's Department or agencies within the portfolio do not have weighting criteria for determining the principles, will the Minister take steps to ensure that they provide an appropriate means to demonstrate their compliance with Commonwealth procurement policy.

- 2383 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 2384 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 2385 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 2386 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 2387 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 2388 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 2389 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Defence.
- 2390 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 2391 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.
- 2392 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2393 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.
- 2394 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources.
- 2395 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 2396 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.
- 2397 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Reconciliation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.
- 2398 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 2399 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 2400 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.
- 2401 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 2402 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—For each of the past 10 years, who have been the commanding officers of 3RAR.
- 2403 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What sum will be raised by the 11 cents per litre consumer levy on milk each year for the duration of the Dairy Assistance scheme in (a) NSW and (b) each State and Territory.

- (2) What sum raised by the 11 cents per litre consumer levy on milk each year for the duration of the scheme will be paid to dairy farmers in (a) NSW and (b) each State and Territory.
- (3) What will be the total sum of the levy raised in NSW.
- (4) What will be the total sum of the levy received by NSW Dairy Farmers.
- (5) Which State Dairy Farmers will receive the difference between what the levy raises in NSW and what is paid to NSW Dairy Farmers.

2404 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In his 9 February 2001 press release titled ‘Motorists have not been short changed on road funding’, did he claim that since 1993-94 the Government has actually channelled \$2.9 billion more for roads overall than would have been spent if only 4.95 cents per litre had been allocated as required by the Australian Land Transport Development Act.
- (2) In reaching the conclusion referred to in part (1), did he not rely (a) on the inclusion since 1994 of almost \$5 billion in Commonwealth grants to State and local governments despite the fact that road grants to local government are untied, and identified road grants to State governments have been untied since 1991 and (b) on \$435.9 million in identified road grants to the States for the 2000-2001 financial year when State Financial Assistance Grants have been replaced by GST revenue from 2000 onwards.
- (3) If so, is it a fact then that (a) successive Governments have, as identified by the Auditor-General in his report on the management of the National Highways System Program, failed to administer the Act as it requires, (b) as a result of this maladministration \$2.9 billion less in excise collected on fuel has been spent on roads than the Act requires and (c) in terms of the road funding requirements the Act places on the Commonwealth, it is irrelevant what amounts may flow through to road spending under other legislation.

2405 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What performance indicators and quality control procedures have been introduced in relation to the work done by trade repair organisations which was formerly performed at South Queensland Logistic Group.
- (2) What comparisons have been made of the quality and cost-effectiveness of this trade work with previous in-house work.
- (3) What conclusions or findings have been reached as a result of these comparisons.

2406 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Since 1 July 2000, has Defence identified or become aware of any cases where the private contractor for vehicle maintenance for work from the South Queensland Logistic Group has forwarded a bill for work that has not been done.
- (2) If so, on how many occasions did this occur and who was the contractor on each occasion.
- (3) What action was taken to rectify the vehicle and when.
- (4) Who paid for that rectification.
- (5) What penalties were imposed on the contractor and when.

- (6) Does Defence still use that contractor.
- (7) What inspections or processes were in place to identify these errors.
- (8) Have any changes been made to these inspection procedures since June 2000; if so, (a) what changes have been made, (b) by whose authority were they made and (c) when were they made.

2407 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In the answer to question No. 1813 (*Hansard*, 4 October 2000, page 20853), was it indicated that Defence played no role in determining wages and personnel management matters for contractors' employees at the Bulimba barracks.
- (2) If so, why then did Army or Defence personnel provide advice to CMAS Consulting on the suitability of former staff when it gained the contract for the supply of labour at Enoggera and SQLG, as outlined in the reply to question No. 2188 (*Hansard*, 6 February 2001, page 20913).

2408 **MR KERR:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1283 (*Hansard*, 27 February 2001, page 21301) in which he said information is not available against the categories of dates specified in the answer, what information is available to the Government regarding (a) full time, (b) part time and (c) casual staff employed by the Commonwealth in (i) Tasmania and (ii) the electoral division of Denison and for what dates is it available.
- (2) Why was the specific information sought by me not available.
- (3) What is the best information available to the Government regarding the categories of employment for those closest to those sought by me.
- (4) Why did it take approximately 11 months for him to respond to my question with a reply to the effect that the information would not be provided.

2409 **MR KERR:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Why is biodiesel excluded from the definition of alternative fuel in the Excise Tariff Act.
- (2) Will the Government amend the Act to allow biodiesel to achieve recognition and parity with the fuel ethanol industry.

2410 **MR KERR:** To ask the Attorney-General—What will he do to ensure the ongoing availability of staff and resources to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal or other administrative agencies given Parliament's rejection of his amalgamation proposal.

2411 **DR MARTIN:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Who are the companies that have submitted tenders for the Defence Integrated Distribution Scheme (DIDS).
- (2) How many of those companies are Australian or have Australian partners, and who are those partners.
- (3) What sum has each tenderer spent in support of their bids.
- (4) When will an announcement be made about the successful tenderer.
- (5) Which electoral divisions are affected by the DIDS program.

2412 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) Is there a shortfall of at least 30 000 positions in the IT industry which are not being filled in Australia.
- (2) Are a number of high technology Australian companies moving operations offshore because of this shortfall in qualified staff.
- (3) Has there been a failure to fund educational institutions to provide for significant increases in IT training.
- (4) What action is the Government taking to deal with this continuing crisis in the availability of qualified staff in the IT industry in Australia.
- (5) What increases are proposed for educational institutions to deal with this crisis in a realistic way.

2413 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) Is there a shortfall of at least 30 000 positions in the IT industry which are not being filled in Australia.
- (2) Are a number of high technology Australian companies moving operations offshore because of this shortfall in qualified staff.
- (3) Is the problem so serious that a special taskforce has been formed by employers in a desperate attempt to resolve this issue.
- (4) What action is the Government taking to deal with this continuing crisis in the availability of qualified staff in the IT industry in Australia.

2414 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2046 (*Hansard*, 27 February 2001, page 21302), during the then Minister for Transport and Regional Services' second reading speech in the House of Representatives on the Airports Bill 1996 was it stated that (a) no sales Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA) should occur until all environmental impact statements processes were completed and the future of Sydney West Airport resolved, (b) the Government was determined not to sell Sydney Mascot and Sydney West Airport until such time as the environmental impact studies have been satisfactorily completed and decisions made in relation to that and (c) the Government would not be putting on the market Sydney Mascot and Sydney West Airports until such time as the election commitment made by the former shadow Minister for Aviation, Senator Parer and reiterated by the Prime Minister was fulfilled.
- (2) Is the primary purpose of the Airports Act, in light of the then Minister for Transport's second reading speech, not to sell KSA until the future of Sydney West Airport is resolved.
- (3) Following, and as a result of the environmental impact assessment conducted for Badgery's Creek and Holsworthy sites, does Sydney West Airport mean the Badgery's Creek proposal.
- (4) When will Sydney West Airport at Badgery's Creek be built.
- (5) In respect to part (1) of his answer to question 2046, does the 13 December 2000 announcement mean that, for the purposes of the Environment

Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act (a) the proposal of Sydney West Airport located at Badgery's Creek is thereby withdrawn by the proponent, (b) the proposal has been officially withdrawn by the proponent, (c) the withdrawal has been officially issued in writing by the proponent to the Minister for the Environment in the prescribed manner, (d) the withdrawal, in light of his announcement made on 13 December 2000, means that there is currently no proposal for Sydney West Airport before the Minister for the Environment.

2415 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a media article on 27 February 2001 in the *Australian Financial Review* by Mr Steve Lewis titled "Airport sale may have to wait for poll".
- (2) Will he furnish a copy of the terms of reference to Salomon Smith Barney in respect to the proposed sale of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA).
- (3) Will he furnish a copy of the scoping study prepared by Salomon Smith Barney in respect to the proposed sale of KSA.
- (4) How is a proposed sale of 25% of KSA consistent with section 18 of the Airports Act.
- (5) How can a partial sale or lease of KSA be part leased in light of the provisions of sections 11 to 22 inclusive of the Act.
- (3) Is the paramount consideration on a decision for the construction of Sydney West Airport the ability to cope with increasing aircraft traffic until the end of the decade, in light of his statement of 13 December 2000.
- (4) Is the capacity of Sydney Airport consistent with the aims expressed in the second reading speech of the Airports Bill 1996 in which the then Minister for Transport indicated that solving Sydney's aircraft noise problem was the paramount consideration prior to sale of KSA.
- (5) Have terms of reference for Bankstown, Hoxton Park and Camden Airports also been issued; if so, to whom.
- (3) Are there overseas airport operators interested in the purchase of KSA; if so, who.

2416 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In answers given during Senate Estimates (Senate Committee *Hansard*, 19 February 2001, page RR&T 71) concerning his Department's assessment of the viability of a proposed Parkes international freight airport, was it stated that his Department had been lobbied over a number of years and could not see any economic viability in that and that a due diligence process had been followed.
- (2) If so, how can he justify the total lack of any economic assessment of the viability of the Alice Springs to Darwin rail project before committing expenditure by his Department, as confirmed in the answer to question No. 2036 (*Hansard*, 7 December 2000, page 23867), yet conduct a due diligence process and an assessment of the economic viability of a far smaller project, the Parkes international freight airport.

2417 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) approve an international flight from Ayers Rock to Jakarta on 17 January 2001.
- (2) Was the flight operated by Air 2000 and was it a Boeing 757 aircraft carrying passengers; if so, how many passengers.
- (3) Was the flight approved by CASA with no recognised aviation fire and rescue services available; if so, is such an approval a breach of CASA's policy and the international regulations set by the International Civil Aviation Organisation.
- (4) What is the nature of the fire service vehicle available at Ayers Rock and do the local volunteer fire officers and firefighters have the aviation experience or recognised aviation ability in line with the standards and competencies required by the Australasian Fire Authorities Council and CASA.

2418 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Given that the scoping study of the sale of Sydney Airport is due for completion shortly, will the ACCC decision on the SACL aeronautical pricing proposal be finally resolved before the sale.
- (2) When is the Productivity Commission review of the price regulation of airport services due for completion and will it be completed before the sale.
- (3) When are the airlines' legal actions against SACL due to be heard by the Federal Court.
- (4) What is the basis of the legal actions and is it intended that the sale proceed before this legal action is completed.

2419 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) With respect to the draft decision of the ACCC relating to the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited aeronautical pricing proposal released on 16 February 2001 and requiring responses by 5 March 2001, did he or his Department receive complaints about this deadline and the short amount of time available to prepare responses; if so, from whom.
- (2) Who made the decision to impose this deadline and why.
- (3) Did he consider an extension of time; if so, why was it rejected.

2420 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) With respect to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) decision on the aeronautical pricing proposal by the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited (SACL), what information has the ACCC refused to release to enable the Board of Airline Representatives (BARA) to comment and what was the justification for the ACCC's refusal to release such information.
- (2) What was the nature of the information provided by SACL to the ACCC after the closing date for submissions and was access to that information denied to BARA which would have allowed it to comment on that SACL material; if not, why not.
- (3) Was BARA given access to the ACCC's modelling of costs and charges, and was BARA allowed to comment on such modelling; if not, why not.

- (4) Was the ACCC's modelling of costs and charges provided to SACL; if so, why was SACL provided such material and BARA not provided with the material.

2421 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Given recent media reports alleging that a group of Sydney lawyers are using bankruptcy to escape their tax debts, has the Treasurer, the Minister for Finance and Administration, their offices or Departments consulted him, his office or his Department about action that can be taken to stop such a group of wealthy individuals abusing the tax system by being serial bankrupts.
- (2) Does he support proposed changes by the NSW Attorney-General to change State regulations under which barristers who abused the tax system would be disbarred.
- (3) Will he consider lobbying other State and Territory governments to introduce regulations similar to that proposed in NSW; if not, why not given the Tax Commissioner's attacks in speeches during 1999 and in his 1999 and 2000 annual reports on professionals abusing the tax system.
- (4) Has he, his office or his Department been consulted by any other Minister, Minister's staff or Department concerning how the Government might pursue other professional groups referred to by the Tax Commissioner such as accounting and medical professionals as having five times the average national tax debt due to their policy of abusing the tax system.

5 March 2001

*2422 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many Vehicle Import Approvals (VIAs) under Regulation 9(E) of the Motor Vehicle Standards Regulations and paragraph 20(1)(b) of the Motor Vehicle Standards Act have been issued in each of the past five years.
- (2) How many vehicles were approved under the VIAs, by model and make.
- (3) How many VIAs in each year were issued to (a) licensed dealers and (b) individuals.
- (4) What sum does the administration of the VIA approval process cost his Department each year.
- (5) What procedure is followed and criteria applied when considering a request for a VIA.
- (6) What steps does his Department take to ensure compliance with the terms of a VIA and what resources have been spent on this process in each of the past five years.

*2423 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2117 (*Hansard*, 26 February 2001, page 21217) concerning the remuneration package of the Chairman of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), due to the sensitive nature of the ACCC Chairman's duties, is he required to notify him, his office or his Department in the same way as Members and Senators

are required, of any gifts received from official and other than official services and of any sponsored travel or hospitality received including attendance at sporting and cultural events; if not, why not.

- (2) Did the Chairman attend the 2000 Olympics as a guest; if so, which events were attended and what was the nature of the hospitality received by the Chairman.

*2424 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Commonwealth's funding for the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) budgeted to end on 30 June 2002.
- (2) Will the Commonwealth provide funding for NHT beyond June 2002, as an ongoing budget measure, without funding the Trust from the further sale of public assets including Telstra.
- (3) What is the current processing assessment cost per project funded under the NHT.

*2425 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Does the Australian Government Actuary, in accordance with common practice for superannuation arrangements in the private sector, provide details of the cost to the Commonwealth of the Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Scheme (PCSS) every three years; if not, how often does the Actuary report.
- (2) Is it a fact that (a) the Actuary reported, in February 1997, that based on 30 June 1996 data, the notional employer contribution rate, that is, the effective cost of the PCSS as a percentage of total salaries of scheme members was 69.1 per cent and (b) based on data as at 30 June 1999, the Actuary again reported to his Department in, or around, February 2000.
- (3) Is he aware that his Department has refused to provide my office with details of the Actuary's last report, on the basis that such information is confidential.
- (4) Will he make the Actuary's 2000 report on the long term cost of the PCSS scheme publicly available; if not, (a) why not and (b) will he reveal what rate of notional employer contribution the Actuary included in his 2000 report.

*2426 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister define what documents constitute the proposal known as Sydney West Airport.
- (2) Can the Minister describe the proposal for Sydney West Airport as it presently stands.
- (3) Can the Minister describe the impact of the supplementary EIS for Sydney West Airport, made in 1999 on the proposal.
- (4) In light of the decisions relating to Bankstown and Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airports on 13 December 2000, has the Minister been advised that the proposal has been withdrawn.

*2427 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the reported remarks of the Prime Minister concerning the need to replace the VIP aircraft fleet because they are almost to the point of being dangerous.
- (2) Given the safety issues raised by the Prime Minister, what additional precautions are being taken.
- (3) When will the two new Boeing 737s and three new Challenger jets be placed into service.
- (4) When will each of the two Boeing 707s be taken out of service.
- (5) When was the decision made to take the two Boeing 707s out of service.
- (6) Was this a Cabinet decision; if not, who made the decision.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

SPEAKER'S PANEL

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

COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 39th Parliament

Standing

Pursuant to standing orders

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

Current inquiry:

Needs of Urban Dwelling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

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

Current inquiries:

Adequacy of radio services in regional Australia.

Art Indemnity Australia.

Progress in rail reform.

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 Competition and Consumer Commission annual report 1998-99.

International financial market effects on government policy.

Reserve Bank of Australia annual report 1999-2000.

EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS: Mr Barresi, Mr Bartlett, Mrs Elson, Mr Emerson, Ms Gambaro, Ms Gillard, Mrs May, Mr Ronaldson, Mr Sawford, Mr Wilkie.

Current inquiry:

Education of boys.

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

Current inquiry:

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 inquiry:

Scientific, ethical and regulatory aspects of human cloning.

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

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

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL SERVICES: Fran Bailey (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Andren, Mr Horne, Mr Katter, Mr Lawler, Mr I. E. Macfarlane, Mr McLeay, Mr Nairn, Mr Secker, Mr Sidebottom, Mr C. P. Thompson. (Mr Griffin and Dr Washer to serve as supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into high technology industries in regional Australia based on bioprospecting.)

Current inquiry:

Development of high technology industries in regional Australia based on bioprospecting.

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

Current inquiries:

Alleged intimidation or interference against witness: Corporal Craig Smith.

Alleged unauthorised disclosure of *in camera* evidence.

Intimidation of committee witness: Mr Peter Osborne.

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

Current inquiry:

Procedures for the opening of Parliament.

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.

Current inquiry:

Provisions of the Corporate Code of Conduct Bill 2000 (*To report by 31 March 2001*).

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 McMullan, Mr Secker, Mr Snowdon, Senator Crossin, Senator McLucas, Senator Mason, 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 Crowley, Senator Gibson, Senator Hogg, Senator Murray, Senator Watson.

Current inquiries:

Auditor-General Act 1997.

Auditor-General's Reports.

Auditor-General's audit report No. 9, 2000-2001, First Quarter.

Coastwatch.

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

Current inquiries:

Adelaide—Construction of new Law Courts Building.

Delamere Range and RAAF Base Tindal, NT—Development of Range Support Facilities.

Sydney—Remediation of Defence land at Neutral Bay

Joint Standing

ELECTORAL MATTERS (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mr McClelland, Mr Pyne, Mr St Clair, 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 relations with the Middle East.

Australia's relations with the United Nations.

Enterprising Australia—Planning, preparing and profiting from trade and investment.

Review of the Department of Defence Annual Report 1998-99.

Second Australian Government loan to Papua New Guinea.

Use of foreign aid to advance human rights in developing nations.

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

Current inquiry:

Review of State-specific migration mechanisms.

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

Current inquiries:

Provision of health services on Norfolk Island.

Sale of the Christmas Island resort.

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 Extradition Law, Policy and Practice.

Australia's relationship with the World Trade Organisation.

Kyoto Protocol.

Statute for the International Criminal Court.

Treaties tabled on 10 October.

Joint Select

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

RETAILING SECTOR (*Formed 10 December 1998*): Mr Baird (*Chair*), Mrs Elson, Mr Fitzgibbon, Mr Jenkins, Mr Nairn, Senator Boswell, Senator Ferris, Senator Forshaw, Senator Murray, Senator Schacht. (*Report brought up 30 August 1999; Committee dissolved.*)

APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

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

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

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