

1998-1999-2000-2001

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 180

TUESDAY, 22 MAY 2001

*The House meets this day at 2 p.m.*

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

- 1 **SAFETY, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Defence*): Further consideration in detail (*from 5 April 2001*).
- 2 **OCCUPATION HEALTH AND SAFETY (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) AMENDMENT BILL 2000** (*Minister for Defence*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2000—Mr Smith*).
- 3 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS) BILL 2000**: Consideration of Senate's amendment (*from 8 February 2001*).
- 4 **FAMILY LAW LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION) BILL 2000** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 April 2000—Mr Smith*).
- \*5 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2001** (*Minister for Employment Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson*).
- 6 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (PARALLEL IMPORTATION) BILL 2001** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 February 2001—Mr Horne*).
- \*7 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (NO. 3) 2001** (*Minister for Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr K. J. Thomson*).
- \*8 **FINANCIAL SECTOR (COLLECTION OF DATA) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr Swan*).
- \*9 **FINANCIAL SECTOR (COLLECTION OF DATA—CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr Swan*).

\* 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.

- 10 **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL (NO. 1) 2001** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr Horne*).
- \*11 **TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL (NO. 2) 2001** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson*).
- \*12 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (IMMIGRATION DETAINEES) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson*).
- \*13 **INNOVATION AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2001** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson*).
- 14 **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*).
- 15 **CORPORATIONS BILL 2001** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- 16 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION BILL 2001** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- \*17 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS AND METHODS OF NOTIFICATION) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson*).
- \*18 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson*).
- 19 **TRADE MARKS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2001** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr Horne*).
- \*20 **FINANCIAL SERVICES REFORM BILL 2001** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr Swan*).
- \*21 **BROADCASTING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2001** (*Minister for Employment Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr Swan*).
- 22 **THERAPEUTIC GOODS AMENDMENT (MEDICAL DEVICES) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 2001—Dr Martin*).
- 23 **THERAPEUTIC GOODS (CHARGES) AMENDMENT BILL 2001** (*Minister for Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 2001—Dr Martin*).

- 24 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (MIGRATION AGENTS) BILL 2000** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 November 2000—Mr Horne*).
- \*25 **AVIATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2001** (*Minister for Employment Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Mr Swan*).
- 26 **INTERNATIONAL MARITIME CONVENTIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2001** (*Minister for Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr Horne*).
- 27 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS (REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr Bevis*).
- 28 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TRANSMISSION OF BUSINESS) BILL 2001** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr Bevis*).

## 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*

- 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 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1999:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 473 (*from 1 November 2000*).
- 32 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999:** Consideration of Senate's amendment (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 33 **CUSTOMS AMENDMENT (WAREHOUSES) BILL 1999:** Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 34 **NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) BILL 1998:** Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 8 March 2000*).
- 35 **TELSTRA:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 550 (*from 27 February 2001*).
- 36 **PRICE OF PETROL:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 540 (*from 7 February 2001*).

- 37 **PETROL PRICING:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 443 (*from 16 August 2000*).
- 38 **INDIGENOUS CHILDREN:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 340 (*from 4 April 2000*).
- 39 **ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 309 (*from 7 March 2000*).
- 40 **CENSURE OF MINISTER FOR FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 183 (*from 24 August 1999*).
- 41 **GEELONG ROAD:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 171 (*from 12 August 1999*).
- 42 **CENTRELINK—LEVEL OF SERVICE:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 45 (*from 10 March 1999*).
- 43 **CENTRELINK:** Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (*from 12 November 1998*).
- \*44 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—MILITARY PROCEDURES IN THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 April 2001—Dr Martin*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 45 **AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY—PRINCIPLES FOR DETERMINING AMOUNT OF DATACASTING CHARGE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 46 **2001 TRADE OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES STATEMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 April 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Downer—That the House take note of the papers.
- 47 **TELSTRA CORPORATION—EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 March 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 48 **HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION—REPORT NO. 11—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 March 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 49 **HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION—REPORT NO. 12—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 March 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 50 **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSIONER—SOCIAL JUSTICE REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 March 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 51 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION) ACT 1979—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from*

28 March 2001—*Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 52 **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSIONER—NATIVE TITLE REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 March 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 53 **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COUNCIL—REPORT NO. 44—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 March 2001—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 54 **COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—CORRIGENDA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2001—Dr Martin*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 55 **REVIEW OF STREAMED INTERNET AUDIO AND VIDEO CONTENT—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2001—Dr Martin*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **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.
- 57 **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.
- 58 **TREATIES—JOINT COMMITTEE 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.
- 59 **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.
- 60 **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.
- 61 **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.
- 62 **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.

- 63 **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.
- 64 **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.
- 65 **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.
- 66 **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.
- 67 **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.
- 68 **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.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.
- 71 **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.
- 72 **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.
- 73 **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.
- 74 **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.

**75 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.

**76 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*).

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 3 (2001)—*moved 3 April 2001*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Snowdon*).

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*).

Excise Tariff Proposal No. 4 (2001)—*moved 3 April 2001*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Snowdon*).

**77 TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr McGauran*):

Excise Tariff Proposals Nos. 1 and 2 (2001)—*moved 8 February 2001*—Resumption of debate (*Dr Lawrence*).

**78 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*).

**79 PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS BROADCASTING AMENDMENT BILL 1998:** Second reading (*from 10 November 1998*).

### **Contingent notices of motion**

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

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

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

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

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## COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

### Orders of the day

- 1 **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 4 June 2001.*)
- 2 **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 4 June 2001.*)
- 3 **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 4 June 2001.*)
- 4 **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 the next sitting Monday after 4 June 2001.*)
- 5 **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 the next sitting Monday after 4 June 2001.*)
- 6 **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 the next sitting Monday after 4 June 2001.*)
- 7 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 8 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 9 **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*) on the motion—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 10 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 11 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 12 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 13 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 14 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 15 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—INTERIM REPORT ON REVIEW OF RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 1999-2000: THE WAGGA WAGGA HEARING—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 March 2001—Mr Hawker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 16 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL MARKETS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2001—Mr Hawker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 17 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SECOND AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT LOAN TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 April 2001—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 the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 18 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—38TH REPORT—KYOTO PROTOCOL—DISCUSSION PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 April 2001—Mr A. P. Thomson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr A. P. Thomson—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

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## PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

### Notices given for Tuesday, 22 May 2001

\*1 **MR BAIRD:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the unique heritage value of the Kurnell peninsula;

- (2) urges the NSW Government not to proceed with rezoning of land on the peninsula, which would allow houses to be constructed under flight paths from Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport;
- (3) calls for a commission of inquiry into land use on the peninsula;
- (4) asks the three levels of government to note the historical and environmental significance of the Kurnell peninsula to Australia; and
- (5) requests the Commonwealth Government to consider allocating funds from the sale of Sydney Airport to purchase land on the peninsula to ensure that:
  - (a) flight paths are not restricted by the construction of new housing; and
  - (b) the area can be developed as a National Park for the enjoyment of all Australians. (*Notice given 5 April 2001.*)

**\*2 MR SECKER:** To move—That this House:

- (1) expresses its support for the development of the Kokoda Track as a National Memorial Park; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
  - (a) support and fund the construction of an all weather road from Kokoda to Ower's Corner, and of educational memorials at each of the battle sites along the Track;
  - (b) commemorate the 60th anniversary of our brave armed forces campaign with an Anzac Day Dawn Service in 2002 at Ower's Corner; and
  - (c) establish a project team to oversee these matters, consisting of representatives of the Departments of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Foreign Affairs, Defence, Veterans' Affairs and Environment and Heritage. (*Notice given 5 April 2001.*)

**\*3 MR MCLEAY:** To move—

- (1) That a Select Committee on Reform of the Opening of the Parliament be appointed;
  - (2) That the Committee's report include recommendations on the:
    - (a) procedures by which the person who had last held office as Speaker of the House could be appointed as a Deputy of the Governor-General for the purposes of the swearing in or the making of affirmations by Members of the House;
    - (b) arrangements necessary to enable the Governor-General's opening Speech to be made in the Parliament's Great Hall; and
    - (c) terms of a bill to alter the Constitution to require Members of the House to swear an oath or make an affirmation of allegiance to the people of Australia instead of the Queen; and
  - (3) That the Committee be required to report on or before the last sitting of the House in September 2001. (*Notice given 10 May 2001.*)
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## Notices

### 1 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 4 June 2001.*)

### 2 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 4 June 2001.*)

### 3 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 4 June 2001.*)

4 **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 4 June 2001.*)

5 **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 4 June 2001.*)

6 **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 4 June 2001.*)

7 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**8 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 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**9 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 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**10 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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**11 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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**12 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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 13 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 14 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

15 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

16 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 17 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 18 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To move—That this House:
- (1) expresses its concern over the degrading conditions forced on humanitarian asylum-seekers in Australia's refugee detention centres;
  - (2) recognises the criticisms made by the Commonwealth Ombudsman in his recent investigation into the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs' Immigration Detention Centres, including a statement that those detained against their will are entitled to expect that there will be a reasonable standard of care provided for them in terms of accommodation, facilities, security, health, welfare and protection from harm; as well as reasonable timeliness of application and review processes;
  - (3) calls on the Government to immediately implement the recommendations of the Ombudsman in his investigation into the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs' Immigration Detention Centres, namely recommendations 1 through 9; and
  - (4) calls on the Government to establish more humane alternative measures to mandatory detention of asylum-seekers, including working with ethnic communities and other welfare organisations willing to care for refugees in a much more humanitarian manner. (*Notice given 6 March 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 19 **MS KERNOT:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 64 to read as follows:

**Personal explanation**

**64** By leave of the Chair, a Member may explain matters of a personal nature, although there is no question before the House, but such matters may not be debated. Any contradiction of a statement made in a personal explanation can be effected only by means of a substantive motion. (*Notice given 7 March 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 20 **MS KERNOT:** To move—That, in the view of this House, the Speaker should rule out of order any statement made by a Member which has been the subject of explicit denial on a question of fact by another Member in a personal explanation. (*Notice given 7 March 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 21 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 64 to read as follows:

**Personal explanation**

**64** By leave of the Chair, a Member may explain matters of a personal nature, although there is no question before the House, but such matters may not be debated. Repetition of a statement, by a Member, that gave rise to the personal explanation shall be considered to be disorderly. (*Notice given 7 March 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 22 **MRS GASH:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the 100th anniversary of the Australian Army;
- (2) celebrates not just the peaks of each wave of activity as the Australian Army entered into various frays, but also the times in between when our personnel were ever at the ready;
- (3) applauds not only those who joined the regular Army, but also those who volunteered or were conscripted at other times and who were prepared to do their duty for our great nation; and
- (4) remembers the efforts of the thousands or millions of spouses, partners, girlfriends, boyfriends and families of those who served with the Australian Army because they were the people who paid the most through the years so that we might retain our quality of life. (*Notice given 8 March 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 23 **MS HALL:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the concern and enormous impact that depression and suicide has on the lives of young Australians; and
- (2) acknowledges and supports the efforts of Ben Carey in his “Cycle for Life” year long bike ride around Australia to raise awareness and funds for the cause of suicide prevention which commences on 8 April 2001. (*Notice given 28 March 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 24 **MR BARRESI:** To move—That, in light of the Howard Government’s internationally acknowledged reforms to the Australian financial system, including centralised prudential regulation, and the payments systems, and Australia’s historically secure banking sector, this House:

- (1) welcomes the Australian Bankers’ Association’s announcement in March to guarantee minimum standards for ‘safety net’ accounts, changes to overcome access barriers to electronic banking and the adoption of protocols for face to face banking services in rural and remote areas;
- (2) notes the recommendations of the Issues Paper of the Viney Review into the Banking Industry Code of Practice released in March 2001;
- (3) condemns Labor’s record on banking policy in both Government and Opposition; and
- (4) calls on Australia’s financial institutions to continuously work with local communities towards meeting the banking needs of Australians living in

urban and regional areas. (*Notice given 3 April 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 25 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To present a bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Act 1903* to declare the Parliament's intention with respect to the award of Victoria Crosses to certain persons. (*Notice given 3 April 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 26 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that 24 311 Social Security recipients have their compensation preclusion period spanning the introduction of the GST;
  - (2) notes that the average length of preclusion periods is 291 weeks;
  - (3) notes that the income cut-out rate has increased by \$115.23 per week to compensate for price rises caused by the GST;
  - (4) notes that if the post GST cut-out rate of \$543.63 was applied to the post GST portion of the preclusion period it would result in a significant reduction in the preclusion period; and
  - (5) condemns the Government's failure to introduce legislation to extend GST compensation to people whose compensation preclusion period spans the introduction of the GST. (*Notice given 3 April 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 27 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To move—That this House:
- (1) expresses its concern at the very large number of positions in the IT industry, estimated at 30 000, which are not being filled in Australia;
  - (2) expresses its concern that the Government's program under the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs and the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts is totally inadequate to deal with this shortfall; and
  - (3) calls on the Government to substantially boost its programs in the areas of education, training and targeted immigration, as well as the work of the IT&T Taskforce, to ensure that there is a much larger pool of people trained in IT available to Australian industry. (*Notice given 4 April 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 28 **MR LATHAM:** To move—That this House opposes the actions of the Speaker in:
- (1) accepting a gift from Fox Sports services without consulting Members of the House;
  - (2) failing to immediately declare the nature of this gift; and
  - (3) potentially compromising the House, given the Parliament's role as the regulator of pay TV services. (*Notice given 4 April 2001. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**Orders of the day**

- 1 **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 4 June 2001.*)
- 2 **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 the next sitting Monday after 4 June 2001.*)
- 3 **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 the next sitting Monday after 4 June 2001.*)
- 4 **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 the next sitting Monday after 4 June 2001.*)
- 5 **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 the next sitting Monday after 4 June 2001.*)
- 6 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**7 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 2 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**8 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 2 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

**9 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 2 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 10 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 11 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 12 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 13 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 14 **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 Sirius Zabihi-Moghaddam, and the inception of another against Mr Manuchehr Khulusi;
  - (3) furthermore notes the persistent gaoling of numerous Baha'is for their religious beliefs and widespread discrimination in property, education, employment, civil and political rights;
  - (4) acknowledges grave concern for the fate of 13 members of the Jewish community presently in custody in Iranian prisons and facing charges of espionage; and
  - (5) urges Australia's continued vigilance and activity regarding human rights issues in Iran. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 15 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 16 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 17 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 18 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 19 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 20 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 21 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 22 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (PETROL TAX CUT) BILL 2001** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 5 March 2001*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

- 23 **EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (PETROL TAX CUT) BILL 2001** (*Mr Beazley*): Second reading (*from 5 March 2001*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 24 **EMPLOYEE PROTECTION (EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS GUARANTEE) BILL 2001** (*Mrs Crosio*): Second reading (*from 5 March 2001*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 25 **PARLIAMENTARY (CHOICE OF SUPERANNUATION) BILL 2001** (*Mr Andren*): Second reading (*from 5 March 2001*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 26 **NATIONAL ROADS**: Resumption of debate (*from 5 March 2001—Mr Zahra, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Lloyd—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 27 **EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (RURAL AND REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE) BILL 2001** (*Mr Katter*): Second reading (*from 26 March 2001*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 28 **PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS AND STAFFING STANDING COMMITTEE**: Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2001*) on the motion of Mr Price—
- (1) That a Standing Committee on Appropriations and Staffing be appointed to inquire into:
    - (a) proposals for the annual estimates and the additional estimates for the House of Representatives;
    - (b) proposals to vary the staff structure of the House of Representatives, and staffing and recruitment policies; and
    - (c) such other matters as are referred to it by the House;
  - (2) That the committee shall:
    - (a) in relation to estimates—

- (i) determine the amounts for inclusion in the parliamentary appropriation bills for the annual and the additional appropriations; and
  - (ii) report to the House upon its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill; and
- (b) in relation to staffing—
  - (i) make recommendations to the Speaker; and
  - (ii) report to the House on its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill;
- (3) That the committee consist of the Speaker and 11 other members, 6 members to be nominated by the Chief Government Whip or Whips and 5 members to be nominated by the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips or any independent Member;
- (4) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair;
- (5) That the committee elect a deputy chairman who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chairman at that meeting;
- (6) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine;
- (7) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;
- (8) That the quorum of a subcommittee be a majority of the members of that subcommittee;
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;
- (10) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records;
- (11) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place;
- (12) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House;
- (13) That the committee have leave to report from time to time; and
- (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Order of the day will be removed from the*

*Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.)*

- 29 **CRIMINAL ASSETS RECOVERY BILL 2001** (*Mr Kerr*): Second reading (*from 2 April 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 4 June 2001.*)
- 30 **AUSTRALIAN BILL OF RIGHTS BILL 2001** (*Dr Theophanous*): Second reading (*from 2 April 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 4 June 2001.*)
- 31 **EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (PETROL TAX CUT) BILL (NO. 2) 2001** (*Mr Charles*): Second reading (*from 2 April 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 4 June 2001.*)
- 32 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (PETROL TAX CUT) BILL (NO. 2) 2001** (*Mr Charles*): Second reading (*from 2 April 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 4 June 2001.*)
- 33 **STATES' CONTRIBUTION TO LOWER PETROL PRICES BILL 2001** (*Mr Charles*): Second reading (*from 2 April 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 4 June 2001.*)
- 34 **RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES**: Resumption of debate (*from 2 April 2001*) on the motion of Mrs D. M. Kelly—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)
- 35 **PRIVATISATION OF TELSTRA**: Resumption of debate (*from 2 April 2001*) on the motion of Mr Sercombe—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 4 June 2001.*)

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

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS** (standing orders 101 and 104) has precedence from the conclusion of consideration of committee and delegation reports, being interrupted at 1.45 p.m. and then continuing for 1 hour after the presentation of petitions each Monday. The **SELECTION COMMITTEE** is responsible for determining the order of precedence and allotting time for debate on consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business. Any private Members' business not called on, or consideration of private Members' business or committee and delegation reports which has been interrupted and not re-accorded priority by the Selection Committee on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays, shall be removed from the Notice Paper (standing order 104B).

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

- 1 **DRIED VINE FRUITS (RATE OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY (EXCISE) LEVY) VALIDATION BILL 2001** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 2001—Dr Martin*).
- 2 **DRIED VINE FRUITS (RATE OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY (CUSTOMS) CHARGE) VALIDATION BILL 2001** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 2001—Dr Martin*).
- 3 **DEFENCE 2000—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2001—Mr Sawford*) on the motion of Ms Worth—That the House take note of the papers.

**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.

*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](http://taxreform.ato.gov.au/publications/1999) titled *The new tax system: here's*

*what you need to know* written entirely within the ATO and Treasury, or was part of the drafting provided by his office.

- (2) Does the ATO stand by its assurances at page 7 that prices will not go up by the full 10 per cent because old, unfair taxes such as the wholesale sales tax will be removed and many things will be GST-free.
- (3) What is the basis of the ATO's claim at page 3 that all families, not categories of families, will be better off under the GST.
- (4) Will non-prescription skin creams, tampons and sanitary pads, feeding pads and breast pumps, vitamins and minerals, pregnancy kits, spectacle frames, contact lens solutions, first aid kits and band-aids, antiseptics and lozenges, school uniforms, school shoes, stockings and socks, stationery, pens, pencils and paintbrushes and school bags and cases be subject to the GST; if so, how can the ATO claim at page 1 that there will be no GST on health and education.
- (5) Does the ATO stand by its assurance at page 13 that the price of a new \$30 000 family car will fall by around \$2400.

*10 April 2000*

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

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

*13 April 2000*

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

- (1) Does the Minister administer legislation which relates to domestic violence.
- (2) If so, what is the definition applied by the Minister's Department to the term "domestic violence".
- (3) Is the definition sourced from a policy document or statute.
- (4) Is there discretionary flexibility available to be exercised by the Department when applying the definition to individual circumstances; if so, are there internal departmental manuals outlining discretionary options.

9 May 2000

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

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

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

- (1) Is the he able to say what services operate in Western Australia to provide assistance or counselling in relation to the use of alcohol or drugs.
- (2) Where does each service operate.
- (3) What are the particular services provided by each of the services.
- (4) Who operates the services.
- (5) What proportion of clients of each of the services identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (6) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in each of the services, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

- (7) How many (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual staff are employed in the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice, and of the total staff, how many identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- (8) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (9) What is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (10) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the services by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (11) What is the total per capita allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by (a) the Commonwealth and (b) Western Australia.
- (12) What proportion of total expenditure by the Commonwealth is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Commonwealth.
- (13) What proportion of total expenditure by Western Australia is the total allocation of financial resources provided for the services in areas related to the correctional services and justice by the Western Australia.

*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*

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.

*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*

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.

*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.

*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*

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 MOSSFELD:** 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.

*12 October 2000*

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.

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.

*31 October 2000*

- 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*

- 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.

- 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.

*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.

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.

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 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*

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*

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.

*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.

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.

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.

*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 (Misoprostol).
- (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.

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.
- 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.
- 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 curettage 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

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.

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 the 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.

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.

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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.

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) Ruzyně (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, Schönefeld, 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) Biggin 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 I 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.

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.

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.

*7 February 2001*

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.

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.

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.

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.

*8 February 2001*

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.

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.

*26 February 2001*

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.

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.

*28 February 2001*

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.

*1 March 2001*

**MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2384 - 2391)—

- (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.

2384 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

2388 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

2391 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.

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.

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.

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.

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.
- (6) 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.
- (7) 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.
- (8) Have terms of reference for Bankstown, Hoxton Park and Camden Airports also been issued; if so, to whom.
- (9) 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.

### 5 March 2001

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.

*6 March 2001*

2428 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) How many general practitioners practise in the electoral division of Shortland, and of these, how many bulk bill.
- (2) Of those general practitioners who bulk bill, what percentage of their patients and services do they actually bulk bill.
- (3) Has the number of services being bulk billed declined in the electoral division of Shortland since 1 September 2000; if so, by how many and what percentage.

2429 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many workers and what classes of workers will be affected by the decision of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal in the case of Quest Personnel Temping Pty Ltd vs Commissioner of Taxation (AATA 124).
- (2) Does the decision apply retrospectively or just to payments made to workers in the future.
- (3) How will the Government ensure that all employers comply with the decision.

2430 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has he been provided with the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) estimates on the number of small businesses with less than 20 employees and a turnover of less than \$2 million that will opt for the Government's new, annual reporting for the Business Activity Statement (BAS).
- (2) How many small businesses opted to use the accounts method to calculate their BAS returns in (a) the first quarter and (b) the second quarter.
- (3) Of the BAS returns remitted by small business from the first quarter, what proportion did the ATO receive (a) from accountants, (b) from personal lodgements (c) electronically and (d) by post.
- (4) On what date does the ATO expect its Hotline to be fully operational in terms of providing advice to small businesses and accountants on the new BAS reporting arrangements.
- (5) What specific communication activities will the ATO undertake during the transitional period to ensure small businesses and tax accountants understand the new BAS reporting arrangements.
- (6) Will the ATO recruit additional staff to manage the transitional arrangements for the new BAS reporting arrangements; if so, how many additional staff will be employed.

- (7) What is the average amount of time an operator spends training before beginning to provide advice on the Government's tax reforms and who provides this training.
- (8) Do the ATO's telephone operators have to complete a formal exam or similar measure, to assess or test their knowledge of the Government's tax reforms before they begin providing advice to members of the public.
- (9) What quality control mechanisms are in place to ensure the information being provided by the ATO's GST hotline staff is correct.
- (10) How are the ATO's hotline staff kept informed of changes or developments in terms of the tax advice they are providing to the public.
- (11) Does the ATO call centre have an electronic scripting system for its staff to enable them to keep up-to-date with changes or developments in the Government's tax reforms.
- (12) How many calls has the tax reform hotline received since the announcement of changes to the BAS reporting arrangements on 22 February 2001.
- (13) What proportion of these calls were related to the changes announced on the BAS reporting arrangements.
- (14) Will the ATO be reviewing the terminology it uses in the BAS form as part of the changes announced on 21 February 2001; if so, who does the ATO intend to contract, employ or consult to make these changes.

2436 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) During his second reading speech for the Airports Legislation Amendment Bill 1997 (*Hansard*, 1 October 1997, page 8958) did he say that the sale of the Sydney basin airports, which are Kingsford Smith, Hoxton Park, Bankstown, and Camden airports, will take place only after completion of an environmental assessment of options for the site for the second Sydney airport and when the Government has effectively addressed noise issues relating to Sydney airport.
- (2) If so, (a) has an environmental assessment of options for the site for the second Sydney airport been undertaken; if so, what (i) is the name of that assessment and (ii) are the assessment's components and (b) has the issue of noise relating to Sydney airport been addressed effectively; if not, when will the issue of noise relating to Sydney airport be addressed.
- (3) Have the two preconditions been satisfied.
- (4) Does the scoping study for the proposed sale of Sydney, Bankstown, Hoxton Park and Camden airports includes these two preconditions; if not, why not.

*7 March 2001*

2441 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Why is a toll being placed on the Western Sydney Orbital.
- (2) What other roads classified as National Highways have tolls.
- (3) Will the Western Sydney Orbital be tolled according to the length of travel on the orbital.

- (4) Can he guarantee that the toll on the Western Sydney Orbital will be capped so that a flat fee applies once a certain distance has been travelled along the Orbital.
- (5) Has the Federal Government given any consideration to implementing a refund on the toll of the Western Sydney Orbital for local residents.
- (6) Will he guarantee the toll will not be above \$5 at the time of completion of the Orbital.
- (7) Did his Joint Media Release claim that major benefits of the Orbital include less traffic on major roads through western Sydney and less traffic on local roads.
- (8) Does the environmental impact statement say that the Orbital will increase traffic on some major roads including The Horsley Drive west of Ferrers Road; if so, given that The Horsley Drive is a local road which many people in the electoral division of Prospect use on a daily basis, what considerations has he given to ensuring The Horsley Drive will carry less traffic on a daily basis after completion of the Western Sydney Orbital.

2442 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) During the second reading speech on the Sydney Airport Demand Management Bill 1997, did the former Minister state that the Government promised a more equitable distribution of the aircraft noise problem and that they had done that, and that the Government promised a review of the flight paths for Mascot Airport and that they had done that.
- (2) Has the Government performed a review of the flight paths for Mascot Airport; if so, (a) what is the name of that review, (b) when did this review take place, (c) will he furnish a copy of this review, (d) does the review include a review of Sydney West Airport, (e) does the review include a review of comparative flight movements between Sydney and Sydney West Airports; if so, what is the location of Sydney West Airport, (f) in light of the Sydney West Airport Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of 1996, supplementary EIS of 1997 and the proposal itself, what is the conclusion reached on the feasibility of Sydney West Airport being located at Badgery's Creek in relation to its proximity to Sydney Airport.
- (3) Did the former Minister state that under the Coalition, 17% of aircraft movements would be to the north; if so, have aircraft movements to the north ever reached 17% of all aircraft movements; if so, when; if not, (a) why not and (b) when will total aircraft movements to the north reach 17% of total aircraft movements.
- (4) Did the former Minister state that his Government would deliver on alleviating the problems as far as the second airport in the Sydney basin was concerned and that it would not be vacillating on it; if so, (a) does the Government's current policy on the Sydney West Airport differ from the Coalition's policy on Sydney West Airport as described in its aviation policy of 13 February 1996 titled *Soaring Into Tomorrow*.
- (5) Did the former Minister also state that "we will not wait for 13 years to pander to different interests in some of our electorates"; if so, is he able to say (a) whether the former Minister was referring to the Coalition

Government and (b) which different interests the former Minister was referring to on behalf of the Coalition Government.

*8 March 2001*

- 2443 **MR O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—How many doctors bulk billed in the electoral division of Corio in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98, (d) 1998-99, (e) 1999-2000 and (f) 2000-2001.
- 2446 **MR O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care— What funds have been provided by the Federal Government to Geelong's Multicultural Hostel in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98, (d) 1998-99 and (e) 1999-2000.
- 2447 **MR O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) How many inspections were carried out on nursing homes in the electoral division of Corio in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999 and (e) 2000.
  - (2) How many spot checks were carried out on nursing homes in the electoral division of Corio in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999 and (e) 2000.
- 2449 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did his present Principal Private Secretary authorise in February 1996 a Liberal Party brochure for distribution to the electors of Lowe entitled "No new areas in Lowe will be affected by aircraft noise".
  - (2) Did the brochure contain a quote from his press statement dated 8 February 1996 saying that (a) those who had not been affected by disruptive aircraft noise in the past in the seat of Lowe would not be affected in the future, (b) the Coalition's policy would result in a dramatic reduction in flights over the electorate of Lowe and (c) Lowe would experience a very substantial reduction in aircraft noise.
  - (3) Did the brochure also (a) say that Paul Zammit and the Liberals had the answer and would halve the number of planes over Lowe, (b) depict the Labor Party's assessment of the flight paths over the electorate of Lowe which would come into operation under his Government after March 1996 and (c) contain the words (i) 'This is not Liberal Policy' superimposed on that part of the brochure depicting the foreshadowed flightpaths which would come into operation in the electorate of Lowe from Drummoyne in the East to Homebush West if he was elected to Government in March 1996 and (ii) 'You can't trust Labor' below the words 'This is not Liberal Policy'.
  - (4) Is it a fact that the Long Term Operating Plan for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA) forecasts 17% air traffic movements to and from the north.
  - (5) Do the Sydney Air Traffic Services Sydney Airport Operational Statistics of December 2000 issued on 22 February 2001 confirm that air traffic movements to and from the north of KSA amount to 27.4% of movements.
  - (6) Will air traffic movements to and from the north of KSA be reduced to 17% of all movements before the next federal election.
  - (7) When will the new Chairperson of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) be appointed.
  - (8) When will SACF next meet.

26 March 2001

2452 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has the Government provided \$200 000 to the Hunter Urban Division of GPs (HUDGP) to fund a study into plans to establish a GPs' cooperative in the region.
- (2) Has the Government funded a number of studies by GP groups to look at the increased corporatisation of medicine.
- (3) If so, (a) what funding was provided and to which groups, (b) under what program was the funding provided and (c) what were the guidelines determining the allocation of funding.

2453 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2187 (*Hansard*, 26 February 2001, page 21224) concerning the Murrumbateman by-pass, (a) what was the nature of the so-called weaknesses in the draft report by the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA), (b) when were they identified and (c) who identified them.
- (2) When does he expect the RTA to finalise its further consideration of the weaknesses in the report and when does he expect to be able to finally determine this matter.
- (3) Since becoming Minister for Transport and Regional Services, has he, his office or his Department discussed the potential decision on the Murrumbateman by-pass with any Minister, staff of a Minister or Department; if so, (a) with whom and which by-pass options were representations made in support of and (b) were any other discussions held with a person or a representative of a person involved in development of land for residential activities in and around Murrumbateman who may benefit from a decision as to which route the Murrumbateman by-pass takes.

2454 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For each of the past 5 years, how many Air Operators Certificates have been issued to foreign air carriers to permit them to operate into and out of Australia, and of these how many have been reissued.
- (2) How many approvals have been issued to foreign registered aircraft operating commercially within Australia, and of these how many are international freight operators.
- (3) For each of the past 5 years, how many foreign registered cargo carriers have been based at (a) Sydney, (b) Brisbane, (c) Melbourne, (d) Adelaide, (e) Perth, (f) Hobart, (g) Darwin and (h) Avalon Airports and in which countries are those aircraft registered.
- (4) Are foreign registered aircraft and their operators regulated by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA); if so, how.
- (5) Does CASA monitor the regulation of foreign registered aircraft by the regulator in the country of registration; if so, are those records publicly available.

- (6) Can Australian companies own or operate foreign registered aircraft.
- (7) Are Australian companies owning, leasing or operating foreign registered aircraft subject to regulation by CASA.
- (8) Are Australian owned companies owning, leasing or operating foreign registered aircraft subject to Australian industrial and occupational health and safety laws; if not, why not.

2455 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) at any time over the last five years retained any barrister who has used bankruptcy as a means of avoiding taxation obligations; if so, (a) which barrister or barristers, (b) on how many occasions was each barrister retained and (c) what was the most recent date that each barrister was retained.
- (2) Has the ATO at any time over the last five years retained any barrister while that person was bankrupt; if so, (a) which barrister or barristers, (b) on how many occasions was each barrister retained and (c) what was the most recent date that each barrister was retained.

2456 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to reports of barristers avoiding large tax debts by declaring themselves bankrupt.
- (2) Is the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) able to garnishee notices under S.128 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* to payments made to barristers by their clients in order to repay tax debts; if so, has the ATO been issuing these notices; if not, why not.

27 March 2001

2458 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an item titled 'Singapore to bid for Sydney airport' that appeared in the 14 March 2001 edition of the *Sydney Morning Herald*.
- (2) Has the proposal known as Badgery's Creek formally been withdrawn by him as proponent of that proposal.
- (3) Was Badgery's Creek ruled out earlier this year and was it expected that the sale would be handled quickly; if so, by what administrative process did this ruling out take place.
- (4) Pursuant to the provisions of the *Environmental Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974*, has the proposal known as Sydney West Airport at Badgery's Creek been formally withdrawn as a proposal under that Act.
- (5) Must the named proposed purchaser of the lease for Sydney Airport, namely either Changi Airport or its subsidiary Changi Airport Enterprises, under the provisions of section 18 of the *Airports Act 1996*, be the lessee or owner of Sydney West Airport.
- (6) Where will Sydney West Airport be located.
- (7) Is it a fact that, if the sale of Sydney Airport is to occur before a decision on the location of Sydney West Airport is made, the lease for Sydney Airport

will be sold without having solved Sydney's aircraft noise problems nor having resolved the location of Sydney West Airport.

- (8) What clauses will need to be present in the lease between the Government and the lessee of Sydney Airport to ensure that the statutory integrity of the Airports Act is preserved, in particular section 18.
- (9) What clauses will need to be present in the lease between the Government and the lessee of Sydney Airport to accommodate the intention of the Airports Act, as explained by the then Minister for Transport in his second reading speech in the House of Representatives on the Airports Bill 1996 in which he declared that Sydney Airport would not be sold until Sydney's aircraft noise problems were solved.
- (10) Is he able to say what the sale price of Sydney Airport will be, which must, by law, include the sale of Sydney West Airport to the one-and-the-same lessee.
- (11) When will the sale of Sydney West Airport occur.
- (12) Is the Government aware that the intention to 'float' the 'sale' of Sydney Airport must therefore mean the 'float' of Sydney West Airport to one-and-the-same lessee as prescribed in section 18 of the Airports Act.
- (13) How is section 18 of the Act to be read in light of its two scoping studies to investment bank Salomon Smith Barney, the first study on the sale of Sydney Airport and the second study into the future development of Bankstown Airport as an overflow airport.
- (14) Is Bankstown Airport Sydney West Airport; if not, what is Sydney West Airport.
- (15) If no airport may now be described as Sydney West Airport, when will Sydney West Airport be declared.
- (16) Has he instructed investment bank Salomon Smith Barney, when drafting the scoping study for the sale of Sydney Airport, to advise within that scoping study, the operation of section 18 in respect of legal rights in the hands of the proposed lessee of Sydney Airport, if that airport is sold prior to the announcement and construction of Sydney West Airport.
- (17) Will he be briefed on the legal impacts arising from the rights of the lessee of Sydney Airport on the Government's freedom to announce a site that may not be in the commercial interests of the lessee, but may be a prudent environmental decision for the people of Sydney.
- (18) Can he assure the public that the sale of a lease to the lessee of Sydney Airport will not constrain the Government contractually to a lease which may preclude the options for selecting a site for Sydney West Airport.
- (19) Can he give assurances that, in the event of a decision on a site for Sydney West Airport being made, the lessee of Sydney Airport may seek contractual compensation against the Government and hence a payout to be borne by the Australian taxpayer.
- (20) In light of the commercial and statutory difficulties that arise in the operation of the Airports Act in the proposed sale of Sydney Airport without the existence of Sydney West Airport, can he foreshadow any proposed



amendments to the Airports Act that would be necessary to overcome these statutory obstacles.

- (21) Will he amend the Airports Act to prescribe that the purchaser of the lease for Sydney Airport must also acquire a lease to build and construct an airport known as Sydney West Airport within a prescribed time.
  - (22) Was it the intention of the Airports Act that the purchaser of the lease for Sydney Airport would mandatorily require the lessee to build and construct Sydney West Airport.
- 2459 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) What official functions were held at Kirribilli House and The Lodge between 15 September and 31 December 2000.
  - (2) What was the date and time of each function.
  - (3) Who other than him attended each function.
  - (4) What was the total cost of catering at each function.
  - (5) Was alcohol served at these functions.
  - (6) Were any bottles of wine which had been couriered from Canberra to Sydney served at these functions; if so, (a) how many bottles of wine were couriered from Canberra to Sydney and (b) what was the total sum of Commonwealth money used for the purpose of couriering wine for these functions.
- 2460 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) How many nights did he spend in residence at (a) Kirribilli House and (b) The Lodge during 2000.
  - (2) What (a) renovations, (b) restorations and (c) repairs have been carried out on the (i) buildings, (ii) grounds, (iii) furniture and (iv) fittings at (A) Kirribilli House, (B) The Lodge and (C) his Parliament House office in 2000.
  - (3) What was the (a) cost of each piece of work referred to in part (2) and (b) name of the tradesman or company which carried out the work or the name of the person or company from which new additions and furniture were purchased.
- 2464 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Does qualifying for payment under the Employee Entitlements Support Scheme (EESS), administered by the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, disqualify recipients of the EESS from receiving other Centrelink allowances.
  - (2) What, if any, other Centrelink allowances are recipients of the EESS (a) entitled and (b) not entitled to receive.
  - (3) Are other Centrelink allowances paid at the full payment rate to recipients of the EESS; if not, at what payment rate are other Centrelink allowances paid to recipients of the EESS.

2467 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Treasurer—What is the estimate in the first full year for Goods and Services Tax collected on utilities including (a) water, (b) gas and (c) electricity.

2471 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Australia Cycling National Strategy examining the (a) benchmarking of bicycle use, (b) benchmarking of accident exposure and (c) benchmarking of bicycling facilities in Australia using international standards; if not, why not.
- (2) Has the National Strategy met its December 2000 objective to include cycling expertise in peak transport, recreation and other appropriate bodies; if not, why not.
- (3) Has the National Strategy met its January 2001 objective to make education about cycling available for pre, primary and secondary school aged students, consistent with curriculum frameworks; if not, why not.
- (4) What work has been done to enable the National Strategy to meet its June 2001 objectives to (a) improve the services and products delivered by the bicycle industry through the development of partnerships, (b) develop a generic policy that can be adapted by all local governments which outlines their role in creating pro-bicycle cultures and physical environments, (c) ensure that appropriate new and renovated public and private developments include end-of-trip facilities for cyclists consistent with national standards, (d) increase multi-nodal trips involving bicycles and public transport, (e) develop and implement a national public communication strategy to improve the awareness of all road users and path users to better share our roads and paths, (f) ensure that safety initiatives such as safety audits and identification of blackspots include consideration of cycling and (g) develop and implement behavioural programs/initiatives relating to all road users which improve cyclist safety in areas such as motor vehicle speeds and helmets.

2472 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How can a private provider of meals to disabled and elderly members of the community compete with a local government service that is GST exempt.
- (2) What measures will be taken to provide an even playing field.

2473 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) When will the Blandford MRI Services Implementation Committee release the tender guidelines for additional MRI services to be funded under Medicare.
- (2) How have the areas to be served by the 7 additional MRI scanners been selected.
- (3) Will the distribution of the scanners be directed to fill the gap in growth areas such as the western suburbs of Melbourne.
- (4) Will Footscray and Sunshine be included in the areas covered by the tender process; if not, what are the grounds for their exclusion.

- (5) Will the existing privately owned machines in Footscray and Sunshine be eligible to take part in the tender process; if not, what are the grounds on which they will be excluded and what impact will this have on the western suburbs of Melbourne.
- (6) What will be the impact of the Blandford recommendations on rural and regional Victoria.
- (7) Why was there a 10 month gap between the receipt of the original report by Professor Blandford and the establishment of the Implementation Committee.
- (8) Why has there been a further 4 month delay in the calling of tenders.
- (9) Will the process be completed for new scanners to be eligible for Medicare rebates by 1 July 2001.

2474 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation—

- (1) Will no documents of local historical significance, including documents reasonably expected to be accessed for the purpose of genealogical investigation, be destroyed or transferred to repositories outside Queensland, in the course of the relocation of holdings currently stored at the National Archives repository in Cannon Hill, Qld.
- (2) What audit or review procedure will be followed when determining the future of holdings currently stored at the National Archives repository in Cannon Hill, including any consultancy arrangements entered into for the purpose of undertaking such a review.

*28 March 2001*

2475 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) In response to a call regarding the Parliamentary Superannuation Scheme does he recall saying on Brisbane talk back radio on Tuesday, 20 March 2001, that aspects of it are under review; if not, why not.
- (2) If aspects of the Parliamentary Superannuation Scheme are under review, can he detail (a) which aspects are under review, (b) who is conducting the review, (c) when the review is expected to be completed and (e) whether the results of the review will be made public; if so, when they will be made public; if not, why not.

2476 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What is the primary policy consideration in competition policy with respect to Sydney Airport.
- (2) Is Cabinet's paramount policy consideration directing the sale of Sydney Airport (a) benefits from competition or (b) cost.
- (3) What are the foreseeable impacts on regional aircraft consumers from the recent proposed amendments to the Sydney Airport Demand Management Amendment Act.
- (4) What compensation to regional airline consumers and airline competitors has been appropriated for the anticipated sale of Sydney Airport.

2477 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Does the Coalition's Aviation Policy dated 13 February 1996 titled *Soaring Into Tomorrow* state (a) on page 10 under the policy heading 'Regional Airlines', that special slots for Sydney Airport will be set aside for regional airlines, to guarantee that residents of country NSW will continue to have convenient access to Sydney Airport and (b) on page 14 under the policy titled 'Airports' that (i) it would not lease Sydney Airport and Sydney West Airport until there is a satisfactory solution to the aircraft noise problem in Sydney and (ii) the leasing process will be deferred until the East West Runway is reopened and a genuine environmental impact statement (EIS) on Sydney West Airport is completed.
- (2) Has the Sydney West Airport EIS been completed; if so, when was it completed.
- (3) What was the site selected for the location of Sydney West Airport following the Sydney West Airport EIS.
- (4) Did the Government announce on 13 December 2000 that (a) Sydney Airport is to be expanded, (b) Badgery's Creek Airport had been shelved and (c) Bankstown Airport is to be an overflow airport for Sydney Airport.
- (5) Has Badgery's Creek Airport been withdrawn as the site selected for Sydney West Airport; if so, (a) what was the date of Gazettal for withdrawal of the proposal and (b) when will the new proposal for Sydney West Airport be announced.
- (6) Is Bankstown Airport now Sydney West Airport; if so, was this achieved by declaration, by a new proposal or by some other mechanism.
- (7) Is there now a satisfactory solution to the current aircraft noise problem in Sydney; if so, upon what criteria has this conclusion been reached.
- (8) Is the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) fully implemented.
- (9) Have all the LTOP forecasts been met in respect to aircraft movement forecasts and respite period allocations.
- (10) Will he disclose when the LTOP will be fully implemented; if so, when.
- (11) Will the leasing of Sydney Airport be deferred until the Sydney West Airport EIS is completed.
- (12) Was the purpose of the 1996 policy to defer any leasing of Sydney Airport and Sydney West Airport until Sydney's aircraft noise problems have been solved.
- (13) Does the explanatory memorandum to the Sydney Airport Demand Management Amendment Bill 2001 state (a) the Slot Management Scheme (SMS) will be amended to cap the number of regional slots allocated in peak periods at the current level and (b) the SMS will encourage airlines progressively to introduce larger aircraft.
- (14) Is a discussion paper canvassing the proposed change to cap the number of regional slots allocated in peak period at its current level to be released by the end of March 2001.
- (15) What is the linear distance between Bankstown Airport and Sydney Airport.

- (16) Is it a fact that if Bankstown Airport becomes an overflow airport, it will necessitate the closure of Sydney Airport's East West runway.
- 2478 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Will he obtain Income Tax Exemption Charity Status for non-profit child care centres that look after children, including children with a disability, children with special needs, Aboriginal children and children from disadvantaged families; if not, why not.
- 2479 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many medical officers are currently employed by (a) each Service and (b) the Defence Force as a whole (i) on a permanent full-time uniformed basis, (ii) on a permanent part-time uniformed basis and (iii) as civilians on a sessional or fee for service basis.
  - (2) How many (a) surgeons, (b) anaesthetists and (c) other specialist medical officers are currently employed by each Service and by the Defence Force as a whole (i) on a permanent full-time uniformed basis, (ii) on a permanent part-time uniformed basis and (iii) as civilians on a sessional or fee for service basis.
  - (3) How many of the medical officers and specialist medical officers referred to in parts (1) and (2) are currently deployed in (a) East Timor, (b) Bougainville and (c) elsewhere overseas in support of ADF military operations.
  - (4) What special practice allowances and other incentive benefits are payable to reservist medical officers who agree to serve overseas.
  - (5) For the latest year for which data is available, what was the cost to Defence of (a) sessional general practitioner services, (b) fee for service general practitioner services, (c) sessional specialist services and (d) fee for service specialist services.
  - (6) Does Defence have a uniform policy on the basis on which fee for service consultations should be remunerated; if so, what are the details.
  - (7) Has the Surgeon-General completed the Review of Attraction and Retention of Medical and Dental Officers that was commissioned in May 1996; if so, what were the findings of his review and what action, if any, has the Government taken as a result; if the review has not been completed, what is the reason for the delay.
  - (8) Did the Joint Chiefs of Staff agree in April 1998 to the establishment of a proposed specialist career and salary structure for Defence medical officers; if so, what was the reason for this decision.
  - (9) Has Defence failed to date to pursue the proposed new career and salary structure through to finalisation before the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal; if so, what is the reason for its failure to do so.
  - (10) When does the Government now expect to be able to implement the proposed new career and salary structure for Defence medical officers.
  - (11) What action, if any, has the Government taken in response to the Auditor-General's recommendation of May 1997 that Defence reach agreement with civilian hospital authorities to enable ADF medical personnel to work in

areas where they will be exposed to the emergency treatment of wounds and injuries.

2483 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did he extend the qualifying period for the First Home Owners Grant Scheme from 60 days to four months.
- (2) Effective from 9 March 2001, was the First Home Owners Grant increased from \$7000 to \$14 000.
- (3) Did the Government inform first home buyers prior to 9 March that the First Home Owners Grant would increase; if not, why not; if so, when did the Government first publicly announce that the First Home Owners Grant would increase.
- (4) Will first home buyers who qualified for the First Home Owners Grant Scheme prior to 9 March 2001 receive a grant of \$7000, while those who qualified after 9 March 2001 will receive a grant of \$14 000.
- (5) Will first home buyers who have put down a deposit to build a house before 9 March but are not due to settle and finalise until after 9 March receive a grant of \$7000.
- (6) What, if any, consideration has he given to backdating the starting date for the \$14 000 First Home Owners Grant Scheme to include those first home buyers who put down a deposit to build a house before 9 March but did not, or are not due to settle and finalise until after 9 March.

*29 March 2001*

2486 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Will the foreshadowed lease of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport contain clauses that (a) reserve in the hands of the Government a contractual right to decide (i) the location of Sydney West Airport and (ii) when Sydney West Airport is to be (A) built and (B) completed, (b) ensure that the lessee will be bound by the Long Term Operating Plan and (c) expressly waive any power of the lessee to hold rights that may prevent the Government declaring the commencement date and location of Sydney West Airport.
- (2) Will the lease for Sydney West Airport be released for tender contemporaneously with the release of Sydney Airport; if not, why not.

2487 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) How many general practitioners practise in the electoral division of Chisholm.
- (2) How many general practitioners in the electoral division of Chisholm bulk billed in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98, (d) 1998-99, (e) 1999-2000 and (f) 2000-2001.

2488 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) On most recent data, how many age pension recipients reside in the electoral division of Chisholm and the postcode areas of (a) 3128, (b) 3129, (c) 3125, (d) 3127, (e) 3149, (f) 3148, (g) 3147, (h) 3150, (i) 3168, (j) 3166, (k) 3169 and (l) 3151.

- (2) On most recent data, how many youth allowance recipients reside in the electoral division of Chisholm and the postcode areas of (a) 3128, (b) 3129, (c) 3125, (d) 3127, (e) 3149, (f) 3148, (g) 3147, (h) 3150, (i) 3168, (j) 3166, (k) 3169 and (l) 3151.
  - (3) On most recent data, how many disability pension recipients reside in the electoral division of Chisholm and the postcode areas of (a) 3128, (b) 3129, (c) 3125, (d) 3127, (e) 3149, (f) 3148, (g) 3147, (h) 3150, (i) 3168, (j) 3166, (k) 3169 and (l) 3151.
- 2490 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Further to the Minister’s answer to question No. 2202 (*Hansard*, 6 February 2001, page 24012), (a) how many of the breaches were administrative breaches, (b) how many of the recommended breaches were imposed, (c) how many of those breaches were lifted and on what grounds and (d) how many breaches were lifted on each of those grounds.

*2 April 2001*

- 2493 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Will he table in the House of Representatives a copy of the Full Trade Sale and privatisation strategy for Sydney. Bankstown, Hoxton Park and Camden Airports.
  - (2) Will the new owner of Sydney Airport hold first rights to build a second major airport within a 100km radius of the Sydney Central Business District.
  - (3) What percentage of foreign ownership will be permitted, in percentile terms, of Sydney Airport.
  - (4) Will he furnish details of the sale process of Sydney Airport.
  - (5) Will the new owner of Sydney Airport have first right of refusal on building and operating a second airport.
  - (6) Will the Bankstown, Hoxton Park and Camden Airports be sold separately from Sydney Airport.
  - (7) Can he define what ‘trade-sale’ means.
  - (8) Is he able to say whether the trade-sale option to sell Sydney Airport amounts to a lessee interest that has power of veto over the timing and construction of Sydney West Airport.
  - (9) What briefing has he given to Sydney Airport management in this sale, in respect to environmental impacts, including aircraft noise and air movement safety.
  - (10) What options has he incorporated into the proposed trade-sale of Sydney Airport that guarantees, in the proposed lease that (a) the Long Term Operating Plan’s integrity is preserved, (b) noise respite periods are distributed in an equitable manner and (c) the Sydney West Airport is built within a prescribed period determinable by the Government.
  - (11) Is it a fact that the sole criteria for the construction of Sydney West Airport is the foreshadowed capacity peak for Sydney Airport being the Year 2010.

- (12) Upon what basis is the estimated capacity peak passenger and aircraft growth for Sydney Airport due to reach its optimum in the year 2010.
- (13) Is it a fact that the 1996 EIS for the Second Sydney Airport Proposal by PPK Environment and Infrastructure notes at paragraph 1.2 titled 'Need for a New Airport' that (a) the Commonwealth Government proposed the development of a second major airport for Sydney capable of handling up to 30 million domestic and international passengers a year, (b) Sydney Airport was expected to handle about 20 million passengers in 1997 and (c) the Second Sydney Airport Site Selection Program Draft Environmental Impact Statement anticipated the new airport would accommodate about 13 million passengers each year (Kinhill Stearn, 1985).
- (14) If so, (a) what is the current estimated passenger and aircraft capacity of Sydney Airport by the year 2010 and (b) is it a fact that the PPK Environment and Infrastructure 1996 EIS for the Second Sydney Airport Proposal states at paragraph 1.3 that the policy of the Coalition of Liberal and National Parties indicated an intention that Sydney's second airport would be more than just an overflow airport and would, in time, play a major role in serving Sydney's air transport needs.
- (15) Does the Government expect that Bankstown Airport, acting as an overflow airport for Sydney Airport, will cope with handling up to 30 million passenger movements per year.
- (16) Has Sydney Airport reached the figure of 20 million passenger movements per year; if so, (a) when was this number of movements reached and (b) does this mean that, according to the Coalitions' 1996 statement, Sydney Airport has already reached its optimum passenger movements.

2494 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Are surgical shoes and orthopaedic footwear subject to the GST.
- (2) Has the Australian Taxation Office made a ruling that GST must be applied to surgical and orthopaedic footwear as they are not described as medical appliances under the GST legislation.
- (3) Will he change the legislation to allow surgical shoes and other orthopaedic footwear for people with disabilities to be exempt from the GST; if not, why not.
- (4) Do patients who purchase Australian-made surgical shoes and products presently have the GST applied but patients who purchase American-made surgical shoes and orthopaedic footwear do not have to apply the GST.
- (5) Is applying the GST to Australian-made surgical shoes but not to American-made surgical shoes anti-competitive; if so, will he refer these anti-competitive aspects to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

2495 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Which aged care facility in the electoral division of Canberra has the highest hostel/accommodation bond requirement.
- (2) What is the average hostel/accommodation bond requirement in the electoral division of Canberra.



- (3) What interest rate is applicable on outstanding hostel/accommodation bonds in the electoral division of Canberra.
- (4) How is the hostel/accommodation bond interest rate calculated.
- (5) At what stage can interest on the hostel/accommodation bonds be charged.
- (6) What information are hostels required to provide to his Department in relation to their accommodation bonds.

2496 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—

- (1) How many applications were made to the 2001 Youth Roundtable from residents in the electoral division of Canberra.
- (2) What was the gender breakdown of these applicants.
- (3) What selection criteria were applied in determining eligibility for the Youth Roundtable.
- (4) Will he provide a copy of the selection criteria and the selection process guidelines.
- (5) Is there a provision for ministerial discretion in the selection procedure for Youth Roundtable delegates.

*3 April 2001*

2497 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Since the Commonwealth introduced the Roads of National Importance program, what (a) sum has been expended in (i) total and (ii) each State and Territory and what (b) projects have been undertaken in each State and Territory.

2499 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What sum has been spent by the Commonwealth Government in association with the NSW Government in the Route Selection Study for the Murrumbateman Bypass, and how has this been expended.
- (2) With respect to the Connell Wagner Pty Ltd draft Preferred Route Selection Report (October 2000) recommending the East Outer route as the preferred option, did the Director, Road Network Infrastructure, NSW Roads and Traffic Authority claim in a letter of January 2001 to his Department that a copy of the Draft Report had been made available to the Member for Hume; if so, did he, his office or his Department make the Draft Report available to Mr Schultz.
- (3) If Mr Schultz has a copy of the Draft Report, why did his Department argue in its letter of 11 January 2001 to the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority that it appreciated that the current draft was a semi-public document but it did not believe that it was a suitable basis for public comment in its current form.
- (4) In his letter of January 2001, did the Director, Road Network Infrastructure, NSW Roads and Traffic Authority, request his Department to provide substantive information on its criticism of the Connell Wagner Pty Ltd draft Preferred Route Selection Report (October 2000), including (a) specific detail where the consultant's ratings are in error, (b) advice on what relevant

issues have not been explored thoroughly and (c) criteria of specific importance to his Department; if so, what is his Department's response to the questions.

2500 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has there been a delay in the awarding of contracts for the Defence Integrated Distribution Systems (DIDS): if so, (a) what are the reasons for the delay and (b) what is he doing to award the contract in line with the original timetable and in a fair and equitable manner.
- (2) What has been the effect of the delay on the DIDS project and RAAF Base Amberley.
- (3) What effect will the project have on the structure and personnel of RAAF Base Amberley.

2504 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Will the proposed amendments to the Slots System foreshadowed in the amendments to the Sydney Airport Demand Management Act result in amendments to the Airspace Management Plan; if so, will consequential amendments to the Airspace Management Plan (AMP) constitute an action as prescribed in the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBA Act).
- (2) Does an amendment to the AMP trigger the provisions of subsection 160(2) of the EPBA Act; if so, must the proposed amendments to the Slots Management Scheme 1998 (SMS) be brought to the attention of the Minister for the Environment for environmental assessment.
- (3) Does the precautionary principle apply to the amendments of the SMS.
- (4) Will the act of amending the SMS constitute severe and irreversible environmental harm to the residents of Sydney through increased aircraft noise and fundamental compromising of air movement safety.
- (5) In the act of amending the SMS, ought not the lack of full scientific certainty of irreversible environmental harm be used to postpone measures to mitigate against the harm, thus applying the precautionary principle.

*4 April 2001*

2505 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many kilometres of the Calder Highway between Melbourne and Bendigo (a) have been duplicated to date and (b) remain to be duplicated.
- (2) Which new construction projects does he plan to have (a) started and (b) completed between now and 2006.
- (3) What sum of Federal funds will be required for each project and over how many kilometres will each project extend.
- (4) What proportion of the duplication work remaining to be done does each project represent.
- (5) What date has the Government set for the completion of the duplication of the Calder Highway between Melbourne and Bendigo.
- (6) What new construction works does the Government plan to undertake on the Calder Highway between Melbourne and Bendigo after 2006.

- (7) What is the projected cost of each of these projects and over how many kilometres will each project extend.
- (8) Is he able to say whether the Victorian Government has a commitment to 2006 as the deadline for the completion of the duplication of the Calder Highway between Bendigo and Melbourne in partnership with the Federal Government; if so, why does the Federal Government plan only for a substantial completion of the duplication by 2006.

2506 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What sum did Australia spend on foreign aid in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99 and (d) 1999-2000.
- (2) What do the sums represent as a percentage of Gross National Product in each year.
- (3) What were the categories of aid.
- (4) What was the proportion of aid directed towards the provision of basic social services.
- (5) What level of assistance was channelled into Micro Credit programs in the recipient countries.
- (6) What level of assistance was given to countries who were prepared to support or fund Micro Credit initiatives.
- (7) What percentage of aid was used in retiring debt in the recipient countries.

2507 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) How many groups or organisations have been granted special needs status under the Special Needs Category of the Aged Care Act in each of the past three years.
- (2) What was the breakdown of these groups over the three year period on a State by State basis.
- (3) What criteria are used by her to determine whether an organisation is granted special needs status.
- (4) How many organisations in this funding year have been granted special needs status and how many applications were received.

2509 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the aircraft movements capacity of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport (KSA).
- (2) What is the current level of aircraft movements at KSA.
- (3) What would be the impact of fully implementing the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) on KSA's aircraft movements.
- (4) Will the proposed sale of the lease for KSA contain relevant clauses specifying that the LTOP constitutes part of the overall plan for the airport.
- (5) What impact will the use of Bankstown Airport as an overflow airport have on the LTOP.
- (6) What impact will the LTOP have on the utility of the Precision Runway Monitor System in terms of maximising aircraft movements at KSA.

- 2510 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to recent comments in relation to waterfront reform that have been made by Ian Donges, President of the National Farmers' Federation that it has to ensure that the savings from the increased productivity flow to farmers and other port users as soon as possible.
  - (2) Has his attention been drawn to any moves by Lang Corporation/Patricks and P&O to pass on the benefits of higher crane rates and productivity to Australian importers or exporters.
  - (3) Has he spoken to P&O and Patricks about their obligation to pass on these productivity benefits, especially given the massive taxpayer funded redundancy.
- 2511 **MR HORNE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What sum has the Federal Government spent on the National Highway since March 1996 (a) at the Weakley's Drive and New England Highway intersection, (b) at the Thornton Road and New England Highway intersection, (c) at the Anderson Drive and New England Highway intersection and (d) on acquisition and planning of the National Highway from Seahampton to Belford along the Kurri Kurri corridor.
- 2512 **MR HORNE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is the Weakley's Drive and New England Highway intersection part of the National Highway and therefore the responsibility of the Federal Government for funding.
  - (2) Has his Department estimated the cost of upgrading the intersection with fly-overs.
  - (3) When will funding be made available.

*5 April 2001*

- 2513 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What action is he taking with respect to the report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs entitled "Cracking Down on Copycats: A report on the enforcement of copyright in Australia", dated November 2000.
  - (2) When will he introduce legislation in response to the recommendations of the Committee.
- 2514 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What legislation sets the retiring ages of judges in each State and Territory.
  - (2) What is the retiring age of judges in each State or Territory.
- 2515 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Prime Minister—What has happened to the level of public sector employment in (a) Bendigo and (b) the Loddon Mallee statistical region since the Coalition came to office in 1996.
- 2516 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What is the (a) number of general practitioners and (b) ratio of general practitioners to each 1000 of population in (i) the electoral division of

Bendigo, (b) Melbourne, (c) Victoria, (d) Australia, (e) rural and regional Victoria, (f) metropolitan Australia and (g) rural and regional Australia.

- (2) What is the (a) number and (b) percentage of general practitioners in each case that bulk-bill.

2517 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
What sum of Commonwealth funding was allocated to the National Highway project known as the Kurri Corridor in the (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99, (d) 1999-2000 and (e) 2000-2001 Budgets.

2519 **MR MORRIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Has the Minister's Department lodged an appeal in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal against the decision of the Social Security Appeals Tribunal (SSAT) to uphold the appeal of Helen Maddison to receive equal treatment to her husband in applying for an Aged Persons Savings Bonus and that her deemed income should include deemed income from one half of the funds held by Mr Maddison in his superannuation roll over fund.
- (2) Is the Government opposed to a couple being treated equally in the granting of the Aged Persons Savings Bonus.
- (3) Has all policy development over recent years treated superannuation as a joint asset of marriage.
- (4) Is the Government's decision to appeal based on the interpretation that the superannuation rollover belongs solely to Mr Maddison and is only applicable to him; if so, is this (a) a complete reversal of all recent policy developments in superannuation and (b) at total variance with the treatment of household income and assets by the Minister's Department when determining eligibility for any pension or pension related entitlements.
- (5) Is the amount involved in the vicinity of \$866.
- (6) What are the likely legal and associated costs to the Department of pursuing this appeal.
- (7) If Mrs Madison's appeal was successful would other applications have to be reviewed and varied; if so, (a) how many and (b) what would be the estimated cost.
- (8) Is this a case of the Government, having lost the case at SSAT, now seeking to deny the bonus to Mrs Maddison, who has sought only to keep the Government to the principle of this bonus, on technical legal grounds.

2520 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article titled "Airport still counts cost of Olympics" by Ms Laura Tingle published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 4 April 2001.
- (2) What is the impact on the Government's proposed sale plans of the multi-million-dollar claim against Sydney Airport Corporation referred to in Ms Tingle's article.

2521 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Will the Government table in the House of Representatives the (a) Master Plan for Sydney Airport, (b) scoping study issued to investment bank

Salomon Smith Barney for the sale of Sydney Airport, (c) Airspace Management Plan for Sydney Airport and (d) transcript of the transport conference held in Singapore on 10-11 March 2001, attended by Sydney Airports Corporation.

- (2) Is he able to supply a list of who will be the prospective bidders for Sydney Airport.
- (3) Is he able to define what is Cabinet's desired percentage of local ownership of Sydney Airport after privatisation.
- (4) What environmental responsibilities will apply to a private company making a land use on Commonwealth land, in particular a private company operating on Sydney Airport.
- (5) What public interest participation rights are provisioned in the proposed lease of Sydney Airport.

2522 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Will he provide the Parliament with an analysis of the fuel consumption of the current Australian passenger and light vehicle fleet.
- (2) Is it the case that the fuel consumption of Australia's passenger and light vehicle fleet is among the worst, if not the worst, in the OECD.
- (3) Have these vehicles an overall energy efficiency of no more than 15 to 20%.
- (4) Are the high prices that motorists pay for petrol compounded by the fact that their vehicles waste 80% or more of the energy contained in the fuel.
- (5) Do these low efficiency vehicles produce significant volumes of carbon dioxide and other air pollutants because they burn such large quantities of fuel for such little mechanical output.
- (6) What measures have the Government introduced to ensure that manufacturers significantly improve the energy efficiency of their vehicles.
- (7) Is the current energy labelling program used on refrigerators and clothes dryers which the Government has decided to introduce for new cars, likely to see a significant improvement in the average energy efficiency of Australian made vehicles; if so, what is the Government's estimate of the likely improvement in vehicle fuel consumption and energy efficiency; if not, why not.
- (8) As a result of the current requirement for the motor vehicle industry to improve fuel economy by 15% over "business as usual" improvements, what is the Government's estimate of energy efficiency improvement and reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.
- (9) Will any reduction in emissions be swamped by the expected growth in the number of vehicles brought about by the Government's bias toward road transport over rail transport.
- (10) Is the Minister aware of the Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles that was set up by the Clinton administration with the goal of increasing the fuel efficiency of the US passenger vehicle fleet to 80 miles per gallon for a medium sized car; if so, what measures has this Government taken to implement such a scheme in Australia.

- (11) Could this kind of scheme significantly reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the transport sector as well as provide fuel price relief Australian motorists.

2523 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he able to provide an analysis of the energy consumption and carbon dioxide levels of the transport sector.
- (2) Has the transport sector had the highest rate of growth of carbon dioxide emissions in the Australian economy; if so, what is the cause of this rapid increase and what measures has the Government adopted to stem this growth.
- (3) Has much of this increase has come from the growth in road transport, in particular, road freight, that has taken place at the expense of rail transport.
- (4) Is diesel hauled rail transport at least four times as energy efficient as road transport and consequently emits one quarter as much carbon dioxide per tonne-kilometre, as reported by the Australian Railway Association.
- (5) Is electric railway haulage 40% more efficient again than diesel-hauled rail transport and emits even less carbon dioxide per tonne kilometre, as reported by international railway operators.
- (6) Has he stated in the past that his first priority is for road transport and rail comes a distant second.
- (7) Is it is the policy of the Government to force down apparent transport costs by allowing the road freight industry to be carried by low paid owner drivers who can barely afford the cost of fuel let alone proper maintenance.
- (8) Does the road transport industry receive subsidies in the form of free fuel, un-recovered road construction and repair costs and services that equals or exceeds 90% of their operating expenses, as reported by the Bureau of Transport Economics.
- (9) If so, will the Government act to recover a higher proportion of these costs and so improve the competitiveness of the much more energy efficient railways.
- (10) Is it a fact that (a) Federal funding has not been made available for the construction of new urban rail systems in NSW and (b) billions of dollars been made available or promised for the construction of new urban road works such as the Western Sydney Orbital.
- (11) What is the estimate of the reductions in carbon dioxide emissions in kilograms per dollar invested resulting in improvements in travel efficiency for the Western Sydney Orbital compared with the proposed but un-funded Epping to Castle Hill Railway.
- (12) Is he able to supply estimates for the quantity of carbon dioxide emitted for an equivalent distance travelled by a commuter using (a) a private car, (b) an electric train and (c) a bicycle.

2524 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a report in *The Sydney Morning Herald* of 3 April 2001 that Cabinet is said to have decided to support the stand taken by the

US against the Kyoto Protocol while the Minister is reported as saying that he is in favour of supporting the protocol; if so, will the Government support the Kyoto protocol; if not, why not.

- (2) In terms of the Kyoto protocol what is the estimated cost per kilogram of carbon dioxide reduction from the electric power industry when measures such as increased energy efficiency of domestic, commercial and industrial equipment are taken into consideration.
- (3) What effect would a program of supporting the installation of domestic solar hot water heaters nationwide have on carbon dioxide emissions if the level of use of such solar hot water heaters reached that (approximately 50%) found in the Northern Territory.
- (4) Considering that electricity generators are responsible for nearly 50% of Australia's carbon dioxide emissions, what measures does the Government have in place to reduce the consumption of electricity.
- (5) What measures does the Government have in place to increase the energy efficiency of Australia's coal fired power stations.
- (6) What area of solar photo-voltaic or solar thermal collectors would be required to replace all of Australia's existing fossil fuelled electric power stations.
- (7) What would be the cost of such a conversion.
- (8) Is the Minister able to provide a comprehensive list of economic sectors, ranging from agriculture, transport, energy supply, housing, food production, mining and all other sectors that each contribute more than five percent of Australia's carbon dioxide emissions together with a breakdown of the costs and potential savings that would result if measures were taken to reduce Australia's carbon dioxide emissions below the levels of 1990.
- (9) Have reputable economic analysts shown that significant savings are possible if measures to reduce carbon dioxide emissions are taken on a case by case basis rather than taking the worst case and claiming that case to represent the whole economy.

2527 **MS J. S. MCFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Does the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Taxpayers' Charter explanatory booklet entitled "Treating you fairly and reasonably" contain a statement that it recognises individual circumstances, including previous history as a taxpayer and level of knowledge and understanding of the tax laws.
- (2) What criteria does the ATO use to ensure that individual taxpayers are treated individually.
- (3) Does the ATO have an internal policy document or set of procedures that outlines how this statement in the charter is to be put into practice.
- (4) How does the ATO monitor compliance to clauses in the taxpayers charter.
- (5) In the instances of reassessing investors in Mass Marketed Tax Effective investments who have had rulings made against them, did the ATO look at every case individually.



**DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2529 - 2530)—

- (1) In light of the fact that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are four times more likely to develop meningococcal disease than other Australians, what steps are being taken to rectify this matter.
- (2) What new policy developments are being implemented to ensure that Indigenous Australians receive the same level of medical care, and subsequently enjoy the same level of health conditions as other Australians.
- (3) As meningococcal disease is closely linked with socio-economic conditions, is the Government implementing initiatives to ensure an increase in standards of the socio-economic conditions of Australia's Indigenous population.
- (4) Does the Government have any active targets with regards to health standards amongst all of Australia's Indigenous communities; if so, to what degree is the Government succeeding in reaching these targets.

2529 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.

2530 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Reconciliation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.

*22 May 2001*

\*2531 **DR MARTIN:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many sandbags does the Army currently have in stock.
- (2) How many of these sandbags are treated with the Class 3 chemical copper naphthenate.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to the detrimental health effects associated with handling products impregnated with copper naphthenate and can he advise of current occupational health and safety procedures in place for the handling of these sandbags.
- (4) Does the current request for tender for the supply of sandbags to the Army contain a specification for the use of copper naphthenate.
- (5) Will he seek registration for the use of copper naphthenate for rot proofing sandbags.
- (6) On how many occasions has the Army sold or given sandbags for use by domestic relief organisations in the last year.
- (7) When these sandbags are used for flood relief and other related purposes are they retrieved at the end of their usefulness and disposed of in accordance with regulations for prescribed wastes.

\*2532 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is Airservices Australia planning to move its function of air traffic control for Sydney Airport to the air traffic control facility in Melbourne.
- (2) Have he, his Department or Airservices Australia received representations expressing safety and professional concerns about the proposal; if so, (a) what are the concerns which have been expressed and (b) which professional organisation or organisations have expressed those concerns.

- (3) What is the operational justification for Airservices Australia's consolidation plans.
- (4) Does Airservices Australia believe that there will be an increase in safety or service levels to the aviation industry by such a consolidation; if so, how.
- (5) Does Airservices Australia anticipate achieving cost savings by such a consolidation; if so, (a) what are those anticipated cost savings and (b) how have those savings been calculated.
- (6) Has Airservices Australia considered whether separating the terminal control unit from the associated control tower at Sydney Airport will adversely affect the airport's ability to meet the demands of both the aviation industry and the community; if so, how have those considerations been reflected in the decision which has been made.
- (7) Has Airservices Australia considered whether controlling the busiest airspace in Australia from Melbourne introduces greater potential for a technical failure to jeopardise separation between aircraft over Sydney; if so, how have those considerations been reflected in the decision which has been made.
- (8) Has Airservices Australia considered the potential for data link and communication failures between the various facilities which will be relocated to Melbourne and those which will remain at Sydney airport; if so, what would be the safety consequences of such a data link and or communication failure.
- (9) Is it the case that disaster recovery capabilities will be severely reduced if the terminal control unit (TCU) is moved from Sydney to Melbourne and in particular have there been instances where it has been necessary for the Sydney tower to be evacuated and the TCU has been crucial in the establishment of a temporary tower; if so, would that ability to establish such a temporary facility be impeded if the TCU is moved to Melbourne.
- (10) Is it the case that presently the control centres at Cairns, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth can operate independently of each other but that they are also able to take over airspace being controlled by adjacent centres if required; if so, if Airservices Australia's consolidation plans go-ahead will these disaster recovery features be lost or significantly reduced and, in particular, should the Melbourne Centre need to be evacuated will it result in airspace, including that over Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth being uncontrolled or under controlled.
- (11) Is it the case that air traffic controllers develop local knowledge during the course of their duties such as local geography, weather patterns and terrain; if so, (a) how will that the local knowledge possessed by controllers at Sydney airport be replicated if those controllers are moved to Melbourne and (b) is local knowledge of tremendous importance during the emergency situations when every piece of available information is needed to resolve the situation.
- (12) Has Airservices Australia considered additional complications confronting controllers as a result of the planned upgrade of Sydney airport and Bankstown airport.

- (13) What will be the cost of transferring the control unit including transfer expenses, redundancy payments and retraining costs and how does Airservices Australia anticipate that it will recover those costs.
- \*2533 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Is his Department or Airservices Australia currently reviewing the present noise insulation boundary for homes in the vicinity of Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport; if so, what parameters have been set for the review and, in particular, to what extent does the review factor in the inconvenience of the time that over flights occur.
- \*2534 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Did a majority of the members of the UN Commission on Human Rights at its 57th session at Geneva vote on 18 April 2001 to take no action on the resolution sponsored by the US concerning China.
  - (2) What was the text of the resolution.
  - (3) Who were the other sponsors of the resolution, if any.
  - (4) What resolutions at the session were sponsored or co-sponsored by Australia.
  - (5) What are the names and positions of the persons who represented Australia at the session.
- \*2535 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Does the Australian Government have a position in respect to the Chinese Bear Farming Industry and in particular to bear bile and associated products; if so, (a) what is that position and (b) has he, or will he make any communication with the Chinese Government in respect to bear farming and the trade in bear bile and bear bile products.
- \*2536 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Have changes been proposed to the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); if so, what is the position of the Australian Government in respect of those proposed changes.
- \*2537 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Is the pharmaceutical allowance paid to a couple who are in receipt of an aged pension less than the accumulative value of the allowance as paid to single pensioners.
  - (2) How does the Government justify that calculation when medication is prescribed to individuals rather than to couples.
- \*2538 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What sources of funding are provided to the Northern Territory from within his portfolio.
  - (2) What sum is provided for each such source for the current financial year and each of the out years.
  - (3) What sources of Commonwealth funding are provided to the Northern Territory for drug, alcohol and substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation programs, and in relation to that funding (a) what sum is provided from each such source for the current financial year and each of the out years and (b)

which Commonwealth department administers each of those funding arrangements.

- (4) To what extent are juvenile diversionary programs linked to drug, alcohol and substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation programs.
- (5) What auditing and accountability mechanisms exist in respect of funds provided to the Northern Territory (a) within his portfolio and (b) in respect of drug, alcohol and substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation programs.
- (6) Is he aware that the NT Chief Minister intervened to prevent representatives of the NT police service and other government departments and agencies giving evidence to the House Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs during the week commencing 16 April 2001 which was inquiring, among other things, into juvenile detention and drug treatment and rehabilitation programs.
- (7) Will the Federal Government express its concerns to the NT Chief Minister in respect of his intervention to interfere with the work of the committee; if not, how does he justify Commonwealth funds being provided to the Northern Territory in circumstances in which the Northern Territory is not accountable for the proper application of those funds before such a significant committee of the Commonwealth Parliament.

**\*2539 MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has the Government's attention been drawn to a report commissioned by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission titled "The Sterilisation of Girls and Young Women: Issues and Progress".
- (2) What steps will the Government take in respect of the recommendations of the report to (a) review the Medicare Benefit Schedule to require Medicare claims for sterilisation procedures for minors under 18 to be accompanied by either a formal authority or full clinical notes on the need for the procedure and (b) place the issue of how to best achieve a non-adversarial and inexpensive formal approval process on the agenda of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General.

**\*2540 MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Has he issued a criminal deportation policy; if so, (a) when was the policy issued and (b) does the policy require decision-makers to take into account the best interests of the child in arriving at their decision as to whether or not to deport a person.

**\*2541 MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has Andersen Consulting been appointed to conduct a wide-ranging overhaul of the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) client relations, including dealings with taxpayers.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of this overhaul.
- (3) Has Minter Research been awarded a \$90 000 contract to review ATO relations with non-business clients.
- (4) Is the purpose of these taxpayer funded reviews to find out why the ATO (a) mishandled the transition to GST and (b) took so long to appreciate the difficulties small business was having due to GST paperwork; if not, what is the purpose of the reviews.

- \*2542 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Has Black Is White been awarded a contract in excess of \$1.3 million by the Australian Taxation Office to provide strategic advice and writing services to develop, implement and evaluate a communication program for all business tax reform products.
- \*2543 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) When will the taskforce announced on 22 March report on the matter of the abuse, notably by high income earning lawyers, of the bankruptcy laws for the purpose of extinguishing often very large unpaid taxation debts.
  - (2) What procedures will be adopted to ensure such persons will no longer be engaged or remunerated by the Commonwealth or its agencies, and from when will these procedures be effective.
  - (3) What steps are being taken to quantify and to prevent potential losses to Commonwealth revenue from this continuing abuse.
- \*2544 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to page 6 of the 13 to 15 April 2001 edition of *The Sydney Morning Herald* which reports him as saying that he has signalled the Government is looking at the plight of self-funded retirees on low incomes hit by falling interest rates and that it is a group of people for which the Government would like to provide some help.
  - (2) What help does Government propose to assist self-funded retirees who are hurting because of the Goods and Services Tax and low interest rates.
  - (3) When will the Government announce its policy to assist this group of Australians.
- \*2545 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report on page 8 of *The Sydney Morning Herald* of 18 April 2001 where a UN aid official is reported as saying that food shortages in chronically hungry North Korea are expected to worsen sharply this year after a meagre harvest last year and a disastrous winter.
  - (2) Further to his reply to my question No. 1263 (*Hansard*, 10 April 2000, page 15657), what additional sum and other assistance has the Australian Government given to the famine-afflicted people of North Korea since that date.
- \*2546 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—When will he provide answers to my question Nos. (a) 2110, (b) 2179, (c) 2221, (d) 2222, (e) 2229, (f) 2252 and (g) 2253.
- \*2547 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article in the *Australian Financial Review* of 11 May 2001 titled “ACCC shot down over airport price regulation”.
  - (2) Has the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) accepted a Federal Government direction to back Sydney Airport Corporation’s bid to secure an unregulated stream of revenue from non-aeronautical services such as shops and car parking.
  - (3) What cost impacts will this direction have on consumers of (a) aeronautical and (b) non-aeronautical services.

- (4) Will he furnish a copy of the direction to Parliament; if so, when.
- (5) What public interest consultation was undertaken in making the direction.
- (6) Was the Board of Airline Representatives of Australia consulted.
- (7) What other public interest groups were consulted.
- (8) Does he agree with the ACCC head, Professor Fels' prediction that this decision will result in higher prices.
- (9) What are the policy and moral grounds for the direction to the ACCC.
- (10) What are the public interest impacts of the decision on (a) consumers of airport services and (b) tenants of privatised airports, particularly service providers such as airline companies, on their profitability.
- (11) Will the direction have an adverse effect on profitability of airline companies and other service providers due to non-regulation of non-aeronautical services in Australia's privatised airports.

\*2548 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware of the plight of veterans who were exposed to British nuclear tests.
- (2) Is he able to say whether the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency has obtained international research regarding the possible health effects of exposure to ionising radiation and made this information available to those affected by the British nuclear tests; if not, why not.
- (3) Has the Government compiled a nominal roll of all Australians affected by British nuclear tests; if not, why not.
- (4) Has the Government appointed a scientific advisory committee to oversee any studies of the effects of nuclear tests on humans; if not, why not.
- (5) Has this scientific advisory committee reported back to him or the Government; if not, why not.
- (6) What priority has he and the Government placed on awarding proper compensation to Australians and their descendants whose health has suffered from the effects of radiation as a result of British nuclear tests.

\*2549 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is 28 May 1984 the date of effect before which Repatriation legislation will not allow for the continued payment of a war widow's pension on remarriage.
- (2) Is the retention of war widow's pensions by persons who remarried prior to 1984 a social justice issue of finding a best balance between equity and financial resources.
- (3) Is the estimated number of pensions provided to war widows who had subsequently remarried prior to 28 May 1984 120 and not 4000 as he had indicated earlier.
- (4) In light of the statistically small number of war widows who remarried prior to 28 May 1984, does equity in distribution of war widow pensions to all such remarried widows now outweigh the financial constraints prohibiting the reissue of those war widow pensions; if not, why not.
- (5) What is the cost of restoring war widow's pensions to this group of widows.

- \*2550 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—In relation to the purchasing of Job Network Services, will he explain the formula used for calculating a provider’s “Q” or quality rating number, including the criteria used and the weighting given to each criterion.
- \*2551 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What sums are available through his Department to organisations who want assistance with establishing Port Welfare Committees in each State and the Northern Territory following the Government’s 7 March 2001 announcement to establish such committees.
  - (2) What criteria will apply for approving funding to organisations seeking to establish the committees.
  - (3) For how long will funding be available to establish the committees and can it be extended beyond that period.
  - (4) Will successful applicants be requested to meet performance standards established by his Department; if so, what is the nature of the performance standards.
- \*2552 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Are there any rules or regulations applying to End of Life Vehicle recycling; if so, what are they; if not, is his Department preparing any guidelines or conducting any research on the options for End of Life Vehicle recycling.
- \*2553 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Since the introduction of The Australian Advanced Air Traffic System (TAAATS) how many air traffic control incidents have been found to have TAAATS human factors as causal factors in those incidents.
  - (2) Has Airservices Australia conducted, arranged to be conducted or commissioned any studies or research into TAAATS human factors; if so, what were the findings or recommendations and when will each be implemented; if not, why not.
  - (3) Will Airservices Australia publish or make available any studies that have been conducted into TAAATS human factors; if so, when and where; if not, why not.
- \*2554 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) With regard to the Albury/Wodonga Hume Highway route selection process, did he undertake on 18 July 2000, in confirming the appointment of Flagstaff Consulting, that Flagstaff’s job included providing an independent audit of the Connell Wagner report into the project.
  - (2) Did Flagstaff write to his Department on 22 March 2001, confirming that it was not able to endorse any of the projects’ benefit cost ratios (BCRs); if so, why.
  - (3) Is he required to release a Regional Impact Statement on his policy decision of 21 February 2001 to build a single lane external bypass; if so, when will it be released.

- (4) In his open letter of 22 May 2000 to the people of Albury Wodonga, did he state that he would proceed on the basis of the principles agreed with the Victorian and NSW Governments that all aspects of the project would be examined, and not just cost.
- (5) In making his decision of 21 February 2001, did he consult with the NSW and Victorian Governments before publicly announcing his preferred position; if not, why not.
- (6) Did he reject Flagstaff's accusation to his Department that his decision was based on draft un-audited costs and not on proper audited figures, as promised in his statement of 18 July 2000 in which he stated it would not be lawful or responsible to spend taxpayers' funds in an irresponsible manner.
- (7) Was his decision made upon fully audited evidence, including (a) the cost of the various road options, (b) traffic analyses of the various road options, (c) the economic benefits of the various road options and (d) the BCR benefits of the various road options.

\*2555 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the Government's announcement to sell Bankstown Airport in the second half of 2002, does the Bankstown Airport Limited Environment Strategy of March 2001 provide that a Master Plan must be prepared within 12 months of privatisation of the airport or by 30 June 2001, whichever occurs first.
- (2) If so, what is the status of this requirement given the Government's delay in the proposed sale of Bankstown Airport.

\*2556 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the last 10 financial years, (a) how many single and continuous voyage permits have been issued with respect to foreign vessels operating in Australian waters, (b) what has been the gross tonnage carried for each category of continuous and single voyage permit, (c) how much of that cargo has been (i) in containers and (ii) bulk carriage for each category of single and continuous voyage permit and (d) from which ports was the cargo taken and to where was it taken.

\*2557 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did he meet members of the Cunningham Rail Link Committee on the Gold Coast; if so, when did the meeting occur.
- (2) At the meeting did he give a commitment that the Cunningham Rail Link would be fully investigated as an option linking the Inland Rail line with the Port of Brisbane; if so, what action has he taken to ensure that the Cunningham Rail Link is fully investigated as an option for the Inland Railway from Brisbane to Melbourne.

\*2558 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the per passenger Baggage Screening Charge applied to passengers departing Australian international airports (a) \$1 at Adelaide, (b) \$2.97 at



Darwin, (c) \$1.56 at Brisbane, (d) \$1.40 at Melbourne and (e) \$0.52 at Perth.

- (2) Does the charge apply to passengers departing or arriving at any other Australian airport, if so, which airports and what sum is charged.
- (3) Are there any exemptions to payment of this charge.
- (4) What is the basis of calculating these rates for these airports.
- (5) Who collects this charge, which Government authority receives the money collected, and why is it charged.
- (6) When did the charge commence and what sum has been collected since its introduction.

\*2559 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many apprentices or trainees have been employed in each employment category by (a) his Department, (b) Airservices Australia, (c) the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and (d) the Australian Maritime Safety Authority for each of the past 6 years.
- (2) Have any staff been appointed under any graduate entry programs, if so how many.
- (3) Have any targeted recruitment campaigns been conducted, if so, when and what was the aim of those campaigns.
- (4) What sum has been spent on external recruitment agencies for recruitment to each employment category.

\*2560 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With respect to the feasibility study into the consolidation of Terminal Control Units (TCUs) by Airservices Australia, (a) when will the study into the technical and logistical issues associated with the possible consolidation of TCUs, including a cost and benefit analysis, be completed and (b) will the report be made public; if not, why not.
- (2) When did the study commence on the feasibility of consolidating the remote TCUs at Sydney, Adelaide, Perth and Cairns into the major control centres at Melbourne and Brisbane.
- (3) As part of the initial feasibility study, was his Department and his office involved; if so, what was the advice from his Department and office about the consolidation of the Sydney, Adelaide, Perth and Cairns TCUs and if consultation did take place, on what date did it occur and what was the nature of the consultation.
- (4) When and how did he advise Airservices Australia that the Government did not want to proceed with the consolidation of the Cairns TCU, and what was the basis of the Government's justification in giving this advice.
- (5) Given the decision to instruct Airservices Australia not to proceed with the consolidation of the Cairns TCU, why hasn't the Government given Airservices Australia a similar instruction not to proceed with the consolidation of the Sydney, Adelaide and Perth TCUs.

\*2561 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—

- (1) Did he direct that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), when assessing aeronautical charges at Sydney Airport, not take account of revenues generated by the airport operator for services other than aeronautical services; if so, (a) when did the Government make the decision to issue the direction to the ACCC and (b) on what date was the direction given to the ACCC.
- (2) When did the ACCC commence the process of assessing aeronautical charges at Sydney Airport and what was the date of final submissions.
- (3) During the course of the ACCC's consultations relating to the Sydney Airports Corporation Ltd pricing proposal, did he issue any other direction or change any parameter for the review; if so, what was the nature of that direction or change and on which date was it issued or made.
- (4) Given that the Productivity Commission is considering arrangements for price regulation of airport services at all airports, should the direction given to the ACCC, in relation to Sydney Airport to not take account of revenues generated by the airport operators for services other than aeronautical services, also apply to the Productivity Commission review of aeronautical charges at all airports; if not, why not.

\*2562 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What price increase has occurred over the last two years for a standard box of 200 digesic (dextropropoxphene paracet DL) tablets.
- (2) Is it a fact that in 1999 the retail price of digesic tablets changed from \$38.20 for a box of 200 tablets to \$38.20 for a box of 100 tablets; if so, is he able to provide reasons for the dramatic increase in the retail price at this time.
- (3) Is the price increase justified; if so, why.
- (4) Is he prepared to undertake any particular action to bring about a reduction in the retail price of digesics; if so, what will he do and when.

\*2563 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Did the Government publish an advertisement in the March/April 2001 edition of the *Age Pension News*, encouraging pensioners to insure with the Over 50s Insurance Agency.
- (2) Is the Minister able to say whether the Over 50s Insurance Agency policies are underwritten by World Marine General Insurance, which is a member of the HIH Insurance Group.
- (3) Why is the Government advertising HIH insurance six months after the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) knew that HIH was in financial trouble, and in the same month that APRA appointed an inspector to HIH.
- (4) Did the Government receive payment for the advertisement; if so, what sum.

\*2564 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the cost of the building of an Australian Representative Office in Ramallah, in the areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority.
- (2) When and who made the decision to build such an office.
- (3) What is the size of the Palestinian economy, in terms of GDP per annum, that this office will service.
- (4) What is the size of the Israeli economy in terms of GDP per annum.
- (5) How many Australian embassies or consulates have been opened or closed since 1996.
- (6) What was the size, in terms of GDP per annum, of the economies served by Australian diplomatic missions that have closed since 1996.
- (7) How does the Australian Government justify the cost of operation and construction, as well as future expansion of the Australian diplomatic presence in Ramallah, compared to the missions that have been closed.

\*2565 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) During the period January 1992 to February 2001, how many staff currently employed by the Australian War Memorial (AWM) have been granted research awards, grants, fellowships or subsidies under the Memorial's grants scheme.
- (2) Of those personnel awarded such grants, how many have been, or are in receipt of more than one grant.
- (3) How much travel leave is allocated each year to AWM staff engaged in research and of these recipients how many staff have taken such leave on more than one year within the period 1992 to 2000.
- (4) Has the taxpayer subsidised AWM staff for travel, research or special leave outside the Memorial's grant scheme.
- (5) Has the AWM's charter discriminated against any member of the public.

\*2566 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What sum was approved for each federal electoral division in NSW under the Black Spots Program in (a) 1999-2000 and (b) 2000-2001.

\*2567 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Is it a fact that prostate cancer is the second most common cause of death from cancer among Australian men, after lung cancer.
- (2) Is it also a fact that in 1998, 2531 men died of prostate cancer, in 1999 the death toll was 2499 and it is estimated that prostate cancer deaths in 2000 will be 2500, equal to the number of deaths caused by breast cancer in women.
- (3) If so, does he agree with his Department's Cancer Strategy Working Group's recommendation to rationalise prostate specific antigen (PSA) testing through education for general practitioners and the community to raise awareness of the implications of a positive PSA test; if so, why; if not, why not.

- (4) Does the Government agree with the Working Group's recommendation to increase breast cancer screening while rationalising the best available test for prostate cancer, given the equivalent death toll.
- (5) What will the Government do to ensure that all males, particularly those of 50 years and over, will have equal and adequate access the PSA test until a better test is available.

\*2568 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many people have applied for the original \$7000 First Home Owners Grant Scheme.
- (2) How many of these applications were (a) approved and (b) rejected.
- (3) How many applications from people living in the electoral division of Prospect have been approved for the First Home Owners Grant Scheme.
- (4) How many applications have been received for the First Home Owners Grant Scheme since the Government announced that the grant would be increased to \$14 000.
- (5) How many of these applications were (a) approved and (b) rejected.
- (6) How many of these applications were received from people living in the electoral division of Prospect.
- (7) How many applications from people living in the electoral division of Prospect were (a) approved and (b) rejected.

\*2569 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How many applications for funding under the National Heritage Trust have been received from projects located in the electoral division of Prospect since the National Heritage Trust was established.
- (2) Have any of these funding applications been approved; if so, which applications.
- (3) What, if any, National Heritage Trust projects have been completed in the electoral division of Prospect.
- (4) What is the expected date of completion of ongoing National Heritage Trust projects in the electoral division of Prospect.

\*2570 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) Did his statement on the Employee Entitlements Support Scheme say that there is inadequate data collected for the implementation of any insurance option in regard to employee entitlements; if so, does his Department collect figures on the number of corporate insolvencies that occur each year; if not, why not.
- (2) Does his Department collect figures on the sum of employee entitlements that are paid out to creditors other than employees in the cases of employer insolvency; if not, why not.
- (3) Does his Department collect figures on the amount of employee entitlements which are accrued by employees each year; if not, why not.

- (4) Has he considered commissioning his Department to compile figures on insolvencies and employee entitlements; if not, why not.
- (5) Has he considered directing the Australian Bureau of Statistics to collect information and statistics on corporate insolvencies and employee entitlements; if not, why not.

\*2571 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Following her announcement on 3 April 2001 that the Government will fund a total of 9541 new aged care places worth a reported \$182 million, how many of these places will be located within the electoral division of Prospect.
- (2) How many of these will be Residential (a) High Level Care, (b) Low level Care and (c) Community Care Places.

\*2572 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Following the announcement on 26 April 2001 by the Prime Minister that a new commemorative medal will be created to mark the 50th anniversary of the introduction of National Service in 1951, on what date will the medals be (a) created and (b) awarded.
- (2) From what date can servicemen apply for the medal and what is the process through which applications can be obtained.
- (3) Who will be eligible to receive the medal.
- (4) Is there an appeals mechanism if an application for the medal is rejected.
- (5) Where will the medal be struck.

\*2573 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has the application by McIvor Health and Community Services for a Community Development Project worker through the Commonwealth Regional Health Services Program been rejected.
- (2) Is the reason for the rejection that Heathcote and the towns surrounding it are not identified as areas of high need.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to the recognition by the Australian Bureau of Statistics of Heathcote as being one of the poorest socio-economic areas in Victoria.
- (4) Will the application be considered in the next round of funding.

\*2574 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Has the application by the Maryborough District Health Service for 9 residential care places and a Capital Grant for \$800 000 towards the cost of building the additional 9 beds at Dunolly, Vic., been rejected.
- (2) Is she aware that the Dunolly community has raised \$339 874 towards the proposed development; if so, was this taken into consideration.
- (3) Why was the application rejected.
- (4) Will the application be considered in the next round of funding in June 2001.



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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**SPEAKER'S PANEL**

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

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**COMMITTEES**

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

**Standing**

*Pursuant to standing orders*

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

*Current inquiry:*

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 1999-  
2000.

Reserve Bank of Australia annual report 1999-2000.

Review of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority.

**EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS:** Mrs Elson (*Chair*),  
Mr Barresi, Mr Bartlett, Mr Cadman, Mr Emerson, Ms Gambaro, Ms Gillard,  
Mrs May, 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, Ms Gerick, Mr Jenkins, Mr Secker, 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. (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 Cadman, Mr Hatton, Mr Lloyd, Mr Morris, Mr Nairn, Ms Roxon, Mr C. P. Thompson, Dr Washer, Mr Zahra.

*Current inquiry:*

Adding value to Australian raw materials.

**LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS:** Mr K. J. Andrews (*Chair*), Mr Billson, Ms J. I. Bishop, Mr Cadman, Mr 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, Mrs D. S. Vale, Dr Washer.

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

**PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL SERVICES:** Fran Bailey (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Andren, Mr Horne, Mr Katter, Mr Lawler, Mr McLeay, Mr Nairn, Mr Schultz, 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*), Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Mr Hollis, Mr Lloyd, 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 24 May 2001*).

**NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY:** 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 Snowden, 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:*

Accrual budget documentation from Commonwealth agencies.

*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.

Belconnen, ACT—Fitout of new Central Office building for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

Ermington, NSW—Site filling, stabilisation and construction of infrastructure at the Defence site.

Rumah Baru, West Island Cocos (Keeling) Islands—Proposed freight and passenger facilities.

**Joint Standing**

**ELECTORAL MATTERS** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Mr Pyne (*Chair*), Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mr Jull, Mr McClelland, Mr St Clair, 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 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.

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

**MIGRATION** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Mrs May (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Baird, Mr Georgiou, Mrs Irwin, 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 (*To report by 18 June 2001*).

**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.

Treaties tabled on 27 February.

**Joint Select****REPUBLIC REFERENDUM** (*Formed 31 May 1999*): Mr Adams, Mr Baird,

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

**RETAILING SECTOR** (*Formed 10 December 1998*): Mr Baird (*Chair*), Mrs Elson,

Mr Fitzgibbon, Mr Jenkins, Mr Nairn, Senator Boswell, Senator Ferris, Senator Forshaw, Senator Murray, Senator Schacht. (*Report brought up 30 August 1999; Committee dissolved.*)

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## APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

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

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

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