

2002

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 41

MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2002

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

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Presentation and statements

- 1 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Discussion paper—Proposed revised standing orders. (*Statements to conclude by 12.50 p.m.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices

- 1 **MR S. F. SMITH:** To present a bill for an Act to assess certain windfall amounts not paid to the States as tobacco franchise fees or to the Commonwealth as tobacco excise and for related purposes. (*Notice given 26 August 2002. Time allowed—5 minutes.*)
- †2 **MR HAWKER:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the significant contribution Australia's defence servicemen and women are making overseas in places including East Timor, the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan;
 - (2) praises the skills, dedication and professionalism of these fine young Australians;
 - (3) draws these matters to the attention of Parliament and all Australians; and
 - (4) acknowledges the success of the Armed Forces Parliamentary Programme in giving Members of Parliament a greater understanding and better appreciation of the commitment of our defence force personnel. (*Notice given 22 August 2002. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time prior to 1.45 p.m.*)
- †3 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges that:
 - (a) quality access to the Internet and to information technology in general is becoming a necessity, rather than a luxury, in modern Australian society; and
 - (b) infrastructure is not keeping pace with technological advancements, particularly in new and developing suburbs on the outer metropolitan fringe of Australia's capital cities;
 - (2) notes that:
 - (a) Telstra and Optus discontinued its cable roll-out before many of the new, outer metropolitan, suburbs existed;
 - (b) the existing location of Telstra exchanges means that ADSL is unavailable in many developing suburbs;
 - (c) there has been an increase in the use of "split pair gains" as a method of providing basic telephone services to developing suburbs which is also incompatible with ADSL; and
 - (d) satellite is the only broadband delivery system available to many Australians and that this is the most expensive broadband service available; and

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

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

- (3) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) investigate the true extent of this problem facing many Australians in developing communities;
 - (b) examine whether Telstra's Community Service Obligation is adequate when dealing with broadband delivery services; and
 - (c) develop a comprehensive solution to the problem of lack of access to broadband services. (*Notice given 19 August 2002. Time allowed—30 minutes.*)

†4 **MS GEORGE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the pain and suffering of Australians living with the disease - Adhesive Arachnoiditis;
- (2) accepts that many current sufferers were at some time involved in a spinal x-ray procedure known as a myelogram;
- (3) believes that an independent inquiry is necessary to investigate:
 - (a) the effects of exposure to the chemical Iophendylate (marketed under the name Pantopaque and Myodil);
 - (b) the basis on which Iophendylate was licensed, marketed and used in Australia; and
 - (c) the social and economic costs arising from the disease;
- (4) acknowledges the important work undertaken by the support group – Chemically Induced Adhesive Arachnoiditis Sufferers of Australia and its founder Derek Morrison; and
- (5) requests the Government to provide some resources and assistance to the Committee to enable it to carry on its worthwhile work which up until now has been done on a voluntary basis. (*Notice given 21 August 2002. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time.*)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the day

- 1 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Question—That grievances be noted (*under standing order 106*).
- *2 **RESEARCH INVOLVING EMBRYOS BILL 2002** (*Prime Minister*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 August 2002*).
- 3 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS (REGISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ORGANISATIONS) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Mr Sidebottom*).
- 4 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS (REGISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ORGANISATIONS) (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Mr Sidebottom*).
- 5 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (DISABILITY REFORM) BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Ms Irwin*) on the motion of Mr Anthony—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Swan, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the House declines to give the Bill a second reading, and
 - (1) condemns the Howard Government's attempt to deny Disability Support Pensions to more than 100,000 Australians living with a disability over the next three years;
 - (2) condemns the Government's attempt to create two classes of people with disabilities by seeking to pay many of those who apply for a Disability Support Pension after 1 July 2003, \$52 a fortnight less than people currently receiving the payment;
 - (3) endorses the view of the ALP supporting the need for welfare reforms that offer the opportunity for people with disabilities to participate fully in the community, including to work;
 - (4) refuses to support Government cost cutting that will discourage people with a disability from seeking employment; and
 - (5) calls on the Government to work with the ALP on a bipartisan basis to achieve real welfare reform.”

- 6 **STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 August 2002—Dr Lawrence*).
- 7 **TRANSPORT SAFETY INVESTIGATION BILL 2002** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 20 June 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 8 **TRANSPORT SAFETY INVESTIGATION (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 20 June 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 9 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 June 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 10 **MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (LIFE GOLD PASS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 11 **ACIS ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 22 August 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 12 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (TERRORISM) BILL 2002** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 13 **BROADCASTING SERVICES AMENDMENT (MEDIA OWNERSHIP) BILL 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Ms Livermore*).
- 14 **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 15 **FAMILY LAW LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION) (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 16 **EGG INDUSTRY SERVICE PROVISION BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 17 **EGG INDUSTRY SERVICE PROVISION (TRANSITIONAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 18 **DAIRY INDUSTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 19 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PRIVATE HEALTH INDUSTRY MEASURES) BILL 2002** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 22 August 2002*).
- 20 **SUPERANNUATION (GOVERNMENT CO-CONTRIBUTION FOR LOW INCOME EARNERS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 21 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 22 **VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- *23 **HEALTH CARE (APPROPRIATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 August 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 24 **EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 25 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Mr Sidebottom*).

- 26 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TRANSMISSION OF BUSINESS) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Mr Sidebottom*).
- 27 **SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT (PREGNANCY AND WORK) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 28 **ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002** (*Minister for the Environment and Heritage*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 29 **AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL BILL 2002** (*Minister for the Environment and Heritage*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 30 **AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2002** (*Minister for the Environment and Heritage*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 31 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (PARALLEL IMPORTATION) BILL 2002** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 March 2002—Ms Ellis*).
- 32 **MEDICAL INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE—BINDING COMMONWEALTH OBLIGATIONS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 33 **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWS AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Sidebottom*).
- 34 **NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COUNCIL AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 35 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 March 2002—Ms Ellis*).
- 36 **HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT (PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REVIEW AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 37 **AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 29 May 2002—Dr Lawrence*).
- 38 **AVIATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 39 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (IMPROVED PROTECTION FOR VICTORIAN WORKERS) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Mr Sidebottom*).
- 40 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CHOICE OF SUPERANNUATION FUNDS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 41 **RENEWABLE ENERGY (ELECTRICITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for the Environment and Heritage*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 42 **FINANCIAL SECTOR LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 43 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (IMPROVED REMEDIES FOR UNPROTECTED ACTION) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 44 **ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT (ROLL INTEGRITY AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2002—Mr Albanese*).

- 45 **COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 46 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (FAIR TERMINATION) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 20 February 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 47 **THERAPEUTIC GOODS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 48 **INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND RESOURCES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 49 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 5) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 50 **SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2002—Mr Edwards*).
- 51 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (SIMPLIFYING AGREEMENT-MAKING) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 52 **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) AMENDMENT (EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT AND COMPLIANCE) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 53 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—Mr Cox*).
- *54 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 55 **COMMONWEALTH GRANTS COMMISSION—REPORT ON JERVIS BAY TERRITORY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA —REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 57 **NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL —REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 August 2002—Mr S. F. Smith*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 58 **TREATIES TABLED ON 27 AUGUST 2002—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 August 2002—Mr S. F. Smith*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the papers.
- 59 **AUSTRALIA AND THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **AUSTRALIA AND THE IMF—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 61 **AUSTRALIA AND THE WORLD BANK—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 62 **AUSTRALIAN RIVER CO. LTD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 63 **ONLINE CONTENT CO-REGULATORY SCHEME—REPORT FOR PERIOD JULY TO DECEMBER 2001—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 64 **ACCESS TO DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES BY DR MICHAEL WOOLDRIDGE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.

- 65 **ACCESS TO DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES BY DR MICHAEL WOOLDRIDGE—ERRATUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 66 **INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AUSTRALIA—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 67 **OFFICE OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY REGULATOR—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 68 **AUSTRALIAN LAND TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 69 **REVIEW OF PRICES SURVEILLANCE ACT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 70 **REVIEW OF PRICES SURVEILLANCE ACT—REPORT—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 71 **LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION HELD BY THE COMMONWEALTH—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 72 **PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS PRICING AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 June 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 73 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 May 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 74 **IIF INVESTMENTS PTY LIMITED, IIF (CM) INVESTMENTS PTY LIMITED, IIF BIOVENTURES PTY LIMITED, IIF FOUNDATION PTY LIMITED, IIF NEWPORT PTY LIMITED—REPORTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 May 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the papers.
- 75 **AUSTRALIAN TECHNOLOGY GROUP LIMITED—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 May 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the papers.
- 76 **AUSTRALIA'S TRADE—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 May 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Fran Bailey—That the House take note of the paper.
- 77 **AGED CARE STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION AGENCY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2002*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 78 **OPERATION OF THE AGED CARE ACT 1997—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2002*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 79 **TARIFF PROPOSALS (Mr Slipper):**
 Customs Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2002)—*moved 29 May 2002*—Resumption of debate (*Dr Lawrence*).
 Customs Tariff Proposals No. 2 (2002)—*moved 26 June 2002*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Cox*).
 Excise Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2002)—*moved 21 February 2002*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Zahra*).
 Excise Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2002)—*moved 29 May 2002*—Resumption of debate (*Dr Lawrence*).
 Excise Tariff Proposal No. 3 (2002)—*moved 26 June 2002*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Cox*).
- 80 **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS BROADCASTING AMENDMENT BILL 2002:** Second reading (*from 12 February 2002*).

Contingent notices of motion

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

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

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

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

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS—continued
Orders of the day

- 1 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—44TH REPORT—FOUR NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS TREATIES TABLED IN AUGUST 2001—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 May 2002—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—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 16 September 2002.*)
- 2 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—45TH REPORT—STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 May 2002—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—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 16 September 2002.*)
- 3 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT 388—REVIEW OF ACCRUAL BUDGET DOCUMENTATION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2002—Mr Charles, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Charles—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 4 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—46TH REPORT—TREATIES TABLED ON 12 MARCH 2002—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 June 2002—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—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 16 September 2002.*)
- 5 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT 389—REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS 2000-2001—FOURTH QUARTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2002—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 6 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 6 **NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—NORFOLK ISLAND ELECTORAL MATTERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 August 2002—Mr Neville, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Neville—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 7 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—47TH REPORT—TREATIES TABLED ON 18 AND 25 JUNE 2002—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 August 2002—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—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 16 September 2002.*)
- 8 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT 390—REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS 2001-2002—FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 28 August 2002—Mr Charles, in continuation*) on the

motion of Mr Charles—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—*continued*

Notices—*continued*

1 MR PRICE: To move—

- (1) That a Standing Committee on Appropriations and Staffing be appointed to inquire into:
 - (a) proposals for the annual estimates and the additional estimates for the House of Representatives;
 - (b) proposals to vary the staff structure of the House of Representatives, and staffing and recruitment policies; and
 - (c) such other matters as are referred to it by the House;
- (2) That the committee shall:
 - (a) in relation to estimates—
 - (i) determine the amounts for inclusion in the parliamentary appropriation bills for the annual and the additional appropriations; and
 - (ii) report to the House upon its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill; and
 - (b) in relation to staffing—
 - (i) make recommendations to the Speaker; and
 - (ii) report to the House on its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill;
- (3) That the committee consist of the Speaker and 11 other members, 6 members to be nominated by the Chief Government Whip or Whips and 5 members to be nominated by the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips or any independent Member;
- (4) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair;
- (5) That the committee elect a deputy chairman who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chairman at that meeting;
- (6) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine;
- (7) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;
- (8) That the quorum of a subcommittee be a majority of the members of that subcommittee;
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;
- (10) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records;
- (11) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place;
- (12) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House;
- (13) That the committee have leave to report from time to time; and
- (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Notice given 12 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

2 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 12 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

- 3 **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 12 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

- 4 **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 12 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

- 5 **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 12 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

- 6 **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 12 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

7 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the following amendment to the standing orders be adopted for the remainder of this session:

Questions from citizens

148A (a) A Member may give notice of a question in terms proposed by a person who lives in the Member's electoral division.

(b) Notice of a question given under this standing order may show the name of the person who has proposed the question.

(c) A Member may not give more than 25 notices of questions under this sessional order in a calendar year.

(d) Nothing in this standing order may be taken to mean that a Member must give notice of a question proposed to the Member by a person who lives in the Member's electoral division. (*Notice given 12 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

8 **MR SAWFORD:** To move—That this House:

(1) acknowledges the collapse of the educational framework in Australian schools;

(2) recommends as a matter of urgency a return to a more structurally balanced curriculum; and

(3) notes that the current framework disadvantages boys in particular and children from disadvantaged migrant and indigenous backgrounds. (*Notice given 18 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

9 **MR BARTLETT:** To move—That this House:

(1) acknowledges the outstanding work of our emergency service and community organisations;

(2) thanks the unpaid and paid firefighters and support personnel for their work in saving life and property during the recent bushfires; and

(3) urges the relevant State and local government authorities to consider approaches to better reducing risks associated with fires. (*Notice given 18 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

10 **MR KERR:** To move—That this House calls on the Government to:

(1) establish a formal inquiry into poverty in Australia to review and update the information base established by the Henderson Inquiry; and;

(2) advise regarding those measures most capable of reducing poverty and reducing the gap between rich and poor within the Australian community. (*Notice given 18 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

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

(1) notes the untimely death of 10-year-old Sam Boulding, an asthmatic whose family home telephone was out of order;

(2) expresses its sympathy to Sam's family;

(3) notes that the ACA survey found 40% of people were dissatisfied at the service provided by Telstra;

(4) notes the continuing contracting out of services by Telstra;

(5) notes that the current Communications Service Guarantee fails to take into account apparent persistent faults; and

(6) calls upon Telstra to deliver a timely service to all customers in metropolitan and rural and regional areas. (*Notice given 19 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

12 **MR KERR:** To move—That this House calls on the Government to establish a formal and public review of the effectiveness and equity of the 30 per cent tax rebate for private health insurance schemes. (*Notice given 19 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)

13 **MR ADAMS:** To move—That this House:

(1) acknowledges that there is enormous concern in the community about the rising cost of all insurances, but in particular public liability insurance;

- (2) recognises that this is of particular significance where community groups are being asked to cover community events for public liability and is causing the events to be cancelled because the costs are impossible to cover;
- (3) understands that this is the responsibility of Federal and State governments to provide a solution to public liability costs; and
- (4) asks the Federal Government to amend the *Insurance Act 1973* and the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984* to:
- (a) provide an ability for groups to provide risk assessment on events and recommend schedules of premiums based on real risk under a set of standardised guidelines;
 - (b) undertake capping of public liability payouts and relate them to cost of medical and rehabilitation payments; and
 - (c) have an independent Government-backed board to assess claims so that they may be based on foundation principles of insurance rather than market values. (*Notice given 20 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)
- 14 **MR BALDWIN:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises hundreds of people from the electorate of Paterson who took part in the Christmas 2001 bushfires;
 - (2) congratulates fire fighters and other members of emergency services in Paterson who not only volunteered their services to fight fires in the local area such as Swan Bay, Fullerton Cove, Booral, Stroud, Gloucester and Nabiac but who also travelled across the state of NSW to fight fires where homes and property were threatened;
 - (3) acknowledges the following Fire Control Centres and their members within Paterson, for their contribution to the bushfire effort:
 - (a) the Great Lakes Fire Control Centre and the Fire Control Officer Ian Lewis;
 - (b) the Dungog Fire Control Centre and the Acting Fire Control Officer Allan Gillespie;
 - (c) the Port Stephens Fire Control Centre and the Fire Control Officer Mark Lewis; and
 - (d) the Maitland Fire Control Centre and the Fire Control Officer Barry Pont; and
 - (4) calls on the NSW Government to implement its recently announced changes to fire management policies as soon as possible and put efficient and effective hazard reduction plans into place before the next fire season. (*Notice given 20 February 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on the next sitting Monday after 16 September 2002.*)
- 15 **MR MURPHY:** To move—That this House prohibits further stem cell research from existing or new embryos. (*Notice given 11 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 16 **MR BEVIS:** To move—That this House:
- (1) establish a committee consisting of four Government Members and three Opposition Members to review the oaths of allegiance and affirmation for Members of the House and recommend to the Parliament a new oath and affirmation that reflects our unique Australian history and our multicultural society and includes a pledge of loyalty to Australia and its people and our democratic institutions and traditions; and
 - (2) require the committee to seek public comment on a new oath and affirmation and include recommendations on procedures and a timetable to be followed in making these changes. (*Notice given 12 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 17 **MR BEVIS:** To move—That the Australian Parliament recognises the importance of the Parthenon to the people of Greece and its special place in Greek history and accordingly requests the Government of the United Kingdom to take the appropriate steps in consultation with the Greek Government to return the Parthenon Marbles to their original and rightful home in Athens. (*Notice given 12 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 18 **MS GEORGE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) condemns the failure of the Federal Government to provide increased funds to meet its share of the new award conditions applying to staff in the community services sector in NSW;

- (2) recognises that this funding shortfall is having serious impacts on the homeless, the unemployed, the aged, young people and people with disabilities; and
- (3) urges the Federal Government to commit the necessary funds to avoid the possibility that community organisations will be forced to reduce or close services, cut hours or retrench staff. (*Notice given 12 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 19 **MR BAIRD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) registers its concern that the proposed construction of a third international airport for Paris will result in Australian war graves being disturbed;
- (2) notes the huge significance of these sites to all Australians, and particularly the families of those soldiers whose graves are affected; and
- (3) calls upon the French Government to do everything in its power to ensure that Australian war graves are not disturbed. (*Notice given 13 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 20 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To move—That this House does not prohibit further stem cell research from existing or new embryos. (*Notice given 14 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 21 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that the NSW Social and Community Sector award pay increases are a welcome recognition of the hard work and skill of workers in the social and community sector;
- (2) congratulates the NSW Government for funding its share of the increased wages bills of the organisations which rely on these workers;
- (3) notes that some organisations still face significant difficulties in meeting increased wages bills and are facing reducing services to the nation's most needy; and
- (4) calls on the Federal Government to pay its share of the increased wages bill to ensure these services can remain open. (*Notice given 14 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 22 **MR PRICE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) refers to the Standing Committee on Procedure the draft Framework of Ethical Principles for Members and Senators and the draft Framework of Ethical Principles for Ministers and Presiding Officers in 1995;
- (2) seeks advice from the Procedure Committee as to the continuing validity or otherwise of the drafts; and
- (3) requests the Procedure Committee to confer with the Procedure Committee of the Senate in its consideration of these matters. (*Notice given 19 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 23 **MR WINDSOR:** To move—That in the opinion of this House the diesel fuel rebate scheme should be extended to cover industries in remote or isolated locations where access to the normal electricity grid is not available economically. (*Notice given 19 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 24 **MR KERR:** To move—That this House recognises that only five more ratifications are required to establish the International Criminal Court and expresses its view that Australia should ratify the International Criminal Court treaty as a founder member. (*Notice given 19 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 25 **MR KERR:** To move—That this House, while reiterating its strong condemnation of terrorism and restating the House's support of Australia's participation in United States led actions in Afghanistan directed against terrorist organisations:
- (1) asserts that it is the right of all Australians (irrespective of the crimes they are suspected of having committed) who are held in detention to be accorded fundamental civil and political rights;
- (2) records its view that it is the obligation of the Australian government to provide consular assistance to any Australian citizen held in detention in violation of these rights;
- (3) notes that an Australian is currently being held in detention in camp X-ray as an alleged terrorist; and

- (4) calls on the Australian government to either seek his return to Australia to face trial for whatever violations of Australian law he may have committed, or to make representations to the United States authorities calling on them to allow him access to legal representation and for them to determine promptly whether or not he is to be charged with any offence under US law and if so to guarantee a fair trial before an impartial tribunal. (*Notice given 19 March 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 26 **MR WINDSOR:** To move—That in light of the NSW Farmers Association City-Country Snapshot Report showing the growing divide between city and country and the new 10 year discriminatory US Farm Bill, this House discusses as a matter of urgency the adoption of zonal taxation proposals as put forward by the National Farmers Federation, the Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Local Government Association as a way of overcoming the population drift, economic decline and inequity of services in country Australia. (*Notice given 14 May 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 27 **MR CADMAN:** To move—That this House endorses the support given to the Howard Government by the aspirational voters of Australia. (*Notice given 14 May 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 28 **MR CADMAN:** To move—That this House calls on the Office of Film and Literature Classification to recognise community standards in approving films for distribution. (*Notice given 14 May 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 29 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 145 be omitted and the following standing orders be adopted:
- 145A** The answer to a question without notice shall be relevant and:
- shall be concise and confined to the subject matter of the question;
 - shall relate to public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected, to proceedings in the House, or to any other matter of administration for which the Minister is responsible; and
 - shall not debate the subject to which the question refers.
- 145B** The standing orders that apply to the asking of a question without notice shall generally apply to the answer.
- 145C** An answer to a question on notice shall be relevant to the question and shall be provided to the Member who asked the question within 30 days. (*Notice given 16 May 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 30 **MR ANDREN:** To move—That this House:
- recognises that Sunday, 26 May 2002, commemorated “Sorry Day” and the “Journey of Healing” and the week of 27-31 May 2002 commemorated Reconciliation Week;
 - recognises that Australian society is not a reconciled society when indigenous Australians live, on average, 19 years less than non-indigenous Australians;
 - recognises that trust between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians is vital to solve many of our country’s problems, such as land degradation;
 - recognises that for trust between indigenous and non-indigenous people to grow, Australians need to look at our history through indigenous eyes;
 - urges all Australian communities to come together, listen to each other, and develop initiatives to overcome prejudice and race-based injustice on a local level; and
 - urges the Parliament to support the struggle for reconciliation by implementing the recommendations of reports such as *Aboriginal Deaths in Custody* and *Bringing Them Home*. (*Notice given 27 May 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 31 **MR BALDWIN:** To move—That this House:
- recognises the efforts of Air Force Squadrons 3 and 77, who are based at RAAF Base Williamtown, and their contribution to the coalition against terrorism through the F/A 18 deployment;
 - acknowledges the support that family and friends have provided to the defence personnel involved in the coalition against terrorism deployment;
 - congratulates RAAF Base Williamtown on its success in the 2001 Air Force Awards, with No. 26 (City of Newcastle) Squadron winning the Air Force Association Trophy for the Most Proficient

Reserve Squadron and No. 2 Operational Conversion Unit winning the RAAF Maintenance Trophy for the Most Proficient Maintenance Unit; and

- (4) recognises the \$17 million investment that will go into RAAF Base Williamtown which was announced in the 2002-2003 Budget and will include a \$2 million child care centre. (*Notice given 28 May 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

32 **MR ANDREN:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that there is no Constitutional impediment to Commonwealth regulation of insurance claims procedures and the magnitude of insurance claims;
- (2) recognises that the Commonwealth has the power to prescribe conditions upon which any person may carry out insurance business of any kind and establish any mechanisms for the supervision of such person and corporations and to regulate their affairs, under section 51(xiv) of the Constitution;
- (3) recognises that the Commonwealth uses this power to regulate the *Insurance Act 1973*; the *Life Insurance Act 1995* and the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984*;
- (4) calls on the Commonwealth to order an inquiry by the Australian Law Reform Commission into the feasibility of a Commonwealth legislative scheme for the insurance industry; and
- (5) calls on the Commonwealth to ensure that such an inquiry evaluate:
 - (a) whether the existing State-based scheme for negligence claims provides the most effective and efficient legal framework for the operation of such claims, in particular whether a Commonwealth-based operating structure should be provided for negligence claims;
 - (b) whether a Commonwealth-based operating structure could provide a uniform national insurance claim standard, with particular reference to:
 - (i) lump sum payment caps;
 - (ii) specific criteria for assessing disability;
 - (iii) standardising damages claims under all types of insurance including public liability, medical indemnity and compulsory third party;
 - (iv) the particular discrepancies that arise, especially in regard to damages awards, in different jurisdictions for similar injuries;
 - (v) whether existing types of negligence need to be amended, including moving from joint and severable liability towards proportional liability; and
 - (vi) whether it is possible for such legislation to apply to all insurance companies regulated under the *Insurance Act 1973*, the prudential legislation under the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
 - (c) the regulation of medical defence organisations as insurance companies;
 - (d) any constitutional limitations on implementing a Commonwealth-based regulatory structure;
 - (e) the costs and benefits of capping legal costs associated with negligence claims funded out of insurance policies; and
 - (f) the costs and benefits of changing the mode of insurance claim payment from lump sum to income stream, annuity or structured settlement, including consideration of any taxation issues and appropriate remedies. (*Notice given 3 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

33 **MS ELLIS:** To move—That this House:

- (1) condemns the Howard Government for its refusal to negotiate with the NSW Government regarding the impact of the SACS Award on services for people with disabilities;
- (2) notes that our community recognises that people with disabilities must be treated with respect and dignity;
- (3) notes that a decent wage for service providers is essential if people with disabilities are to receive appropriate support;
- (4) notes that unless the Howard Government puts a new wages mechanism in place, a funding deficit in NSW will occur as salaries are reviewed in each State and Territory; and
- (5) calls upon the Government to establish fair and reasonable guidelines for the funding of award increases which exceed the CPI. (*Notice given 6 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

- 34 **MR B. P. J. O'CONNOR:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that the demise of former national aviation carrier Ansett has resulted in some adverse consequences, including increased airfares and a loss of thousands of Australian jobs;
 - (2) recognises that the loss of Ansett jobs has had a significant impact upon employment levels particularly within some regions; and
 - (3) calls upon the Government to commit itself to assisting those regions most affected by loss of employment. (*Notice given 17 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 35 **MS O'BYRNE :** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the pivotal role undertaken by the Australian Maritime College in providing maritime education and research;
 - (2) further notes the high standard of training the College provides overseas students; and
 - (3) calls upon the Government to immediately act to honour its election commitment regarding university status for the College. (*Notice given 19 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 36 **MS O'BYRNE :** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes with concern the increase in the rise of piracy in the maritime industry; and
 - (2) calls upon the Government to ensure that the current discussions on maritime security are also seen as an opportunity for finding solutions to the piracy problem. (*Notice given 19 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 37 **MS O'BYRNE :** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the role of the merchant fleet in national defence strategy; and
 - (2) calls upon the Government to ensure a policy framework that allows a sustainable environment for the Australian merchant shipping industry in order to maintain the “fourth arm of defence”. (*Notice given 19 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 38 **MS O'BYRNE :** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the increased risk of illegal entry into Australia from foreign crewed vessels that are now able to spend extended periods on the Australian coast; and
 - (2) calls upon the Government to immediately act to review the current security arrangements in relation to foreign seafarers. (*Notice given 19 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 39 **MR MURPHY:** To move—That, following the agreement on a ceasefire between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), this House supports the following next key steps in the peace process:
- (1) the security forces should be withdrawn from the public places they have been occupying, thus paving the way for the resettlement of displaced persons;
 - (2) de-proscription of the LTTE in Sri Lanka so that they are accorded equal and legal status to participate in peace negotiations;
 - (3) determine a suitable composition and powers for the proposed interim administration for the Tamil homeland to rebuild war-ravaged areas whilst political negotiations are pursued; and
 - (4) proceed with political negotiations addressing the security of the Tamil people and the three cardinal principles of nationhood, right to a homeland and the right to self-determination. (*Notice given 19 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 40 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To move—That this House:
- (1) pays tribute to the thousands of dedicated people across Australia who are involved every week in ethnic community broadcasting;
 - (2) recognises that the Australian Ethnic Radio Training Project (AERTP), auspiced by the National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters Council, performs a vital role in providing nationally available, quality, accredited, value-for-money competency-based training for aspiring ethnic community broadcasters;

- (3) acknowledges there is an ongoing demand for such training from new broadcasters, new programs, new language groups and from existing groups; and
- (4) calls on the Government to provide further financial support to AERTP to ensure that it continues to operate beyond the 2002-2003 financial year. (*Notice given 27 June 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

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

- (1) Insert after standing order 61:

“**62** Unless moving the second reading of a bill or unless leave of the House is given, a Member may not read his or her speech.”

- (2) Insert after standing order 84:

“**84A** Notwithstanding any other provisions of the standing orders and subject to the discretion of the Chair, a Member may ask a Member making a speech to allow the Member to ask a question or make a comment relevant to the Member’s speech.”

“**84B** A Minister moving the second reading of a bill received from the Senate may have the terms of his or her speech on the bill incorporated in *Hansard*.”

- (3) Standing order 101:

- (a) After the provisions under “*Tuesday*”, insert:

“*Wednesday*:

1. Notices and orders of the day. 2. Members’ statements (at approximately 1.45 p.m.). 3. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.). 4. Presentation of petitions. 5. Ministerial statements, by leave. 6. Matter of public importance. 7. Notices and orders of the day.

- (b) Omit “*Wednesday and Thursday*”, substitute “*Thursday*”:

- (4) Standing order 106A:

After “*Monday*”, insert “and *Wednesday*”.

- (5) After standing order 111:

“**111A** Before the end of each period of sittings, the Speaker must present to the House a list showing the Ministers who have made ministerial statements since the last tabling of such a list, the subject of each statement, the time taken and the time taken by any other Members speaking in response to the statements” (*Notice given 28 June 2002, a.m. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

42 **MS GAMBARO:** To move—That:

- (1) this House calls on the Government to fund a national co-ordinated study into Parkinson’s disease due to the increase in the number of sufferers estimated to be 80,000 at present and the lack of comprehensive data on Parkinson’s disease for more than 40 years;
- (2) the study determine:
 - (a) the number of sufferers;
 - (b) how the disease affects sufferers and their carers; and
 - (c) how much the disease costs the Australian community; and
- (3) the Government continues to place healthy ageing as a priority and that a national prevalence study of Parkinson’s disease will aid in better treatment of the disease and assist in understanding the impact on future health budgets. (*Notice given 21 August 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

43 **MR COBB:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the serious state of drought across the south eastern part of the Australian continent;
- (2) recognises the variability of weather patterns across Australia;
- (3) recognises the serious economic and social impact being felt by rural communities;
- (4) acknowledges the need to maintain the long term viability of agriculture in the drought affected regions; and
- (5) calls on State Governments to provide a more substantial financial contribution to drought relief. (*Notice given 26 August 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

- 44 **MR BALDWIN:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the need to ease traffic congestion on the New England Highway to assist motorists from areas such as Beresfield and Thornton;
 - (2) acknowledges a recent audit of the New England Highway by the NRMA which found the worst section of the highway is a 12.8km stretch between Hexham and Maitland which includes the Weakley's Drive intersection;
 - (3) further acknowledges the audit which found that this particular stretch of road has a crash and casualty rate 79% higher than the route average;
 - (4) recognises the most recent fatality on the New England Highway when a motorist was killed on the South Seas Drive intersection in August 2002; and
 - (5) calls on all levels of government to progress work along this highway as quickly as possible, including:
 - (a) State Government construction of a link road between Beresfield and Thornton;
 - (b) construction of an interchange at the Weakley's Drive intersection; and
 - (c) funding of improvements to intersections along the highway that have an historically high rate of accidents. (*Notice given 26 August 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 45 **MR NEVILLE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the significance of the credit union movement in the framework of Australia's financial services;
 - (2) recognises the contribution of 200 Australian credit unions and their 3.5 million members not only to the concept of mutuality but also as an alternative source of housing and domestic finance;
 - (3) notes its role in providing banking-type and lending services in country and many other areas vacated by the traditional banks;
 - (4) recommends a reassessment of ASIC and APRA regulations (commensurate with the size and role of credit unions); and
 - (5) requests a re-examination of taxation, franking credits and register requirements as they apply to credit unions. (*Notice given 27 August 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

Orders of the day

- 1 **EMPLOYEE PROTECTION (EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS GUARANTEE) BILL 2002** (*Mrs Crosio*): Second reading (*from 11 March 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 2 **CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BILL 2002** (*Mr McClelland*): Second reading (*from 11 March 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 3 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (A SIMPLER BUSINESS ACTIVITY STATEMENT) BILL 2002** (*Mr McMullan*): Second reading (*from 11 March 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 4 **SUPERANNUATION GUARANTEE (ADMINISTRATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Mr Latham*): Second reading (*from 11 March 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 5 **WATER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 2002*) on the motion of Mr Forrest—That this House:
 - (1) acknowledges the seriously depleted nature of rainfall patterns across south east Australia in the last decade;
 - (2) recognises that adequate water availability is a limiting criterion for Australia's economic and population growth; and
 - (3) encourages the implementation of water conservation projects, including capital upgrades for inefficient and wasteful water supply projects, increased public education on measures to conserve water and increased meteorological research into changing rainfall patterns and possible intervention measures. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

- 6 **ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 2002*) on the motion of Ms Grierson—That this House calls on the Government to support improved quality of life for people with Alzheimer's disease and their carers by:
- (1) amending the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee's eligibility requirements and conditions to include greater recognition of qualitative measures rather than quantitative measures; and
 - (2) allowing greater consideration of the advice of medical practitioners and carers involved in the daily management of patients to determine the continued eligibility for the use of the drug Aricept on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme list. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 7 **TAX CONCESSIONS:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 2002*) on the motion of Mr Kerr—That this House expresses its concern at the growth of untargeted financial subsidies paid to the well off in the community and calls on the Treasurer to provide transparent information regarding the cost of tax concessions and direct payments to those who have high incomes in multiples of average weekly earnings. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 8 **PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 March 2002—Mr Abbott*) on the motion of Mr Windsor—That the House's program be altered to allow Members to debate the serious issue of public liability insurance to guide the Federal representatives before they attend the inter-governmental Summit scheduled on the issue for Wednesday, 27 March 2002, and that this House:
- (1) recognises the widespread distress being caused by the insurance crisis and requires a multi-faceted approach by all levels of Government and the community to solve this dilemma;
 - (2) recognises the comments made by the Prime Minister in Question time last week "that there is not one level of government that can tackle the problem";
 - (3) notes with alarm the Treasurer's reply in question time today that the only Federal Government role will be to facilitate talks on the issue;
 - (4) acknowledges that under paragraph 51(xiv) of the Australian Constitution insurance is very much a Federal issue and demands that the Prime Minister takes a leadership role in relation to the National Insurance Summit being held on Wednesday 27 March 2002;
 - (5) acknowledges that this is the last opportunity for this House to send a message to the Government and the States, the views of our constituents prior to the insurance summit;
 - (6) recommends that a Joint Select Committee of Federal Parliament be established to address this important issue of public liability insurance with the widest possible terms of reference; and
 - (7) recognises and acknowledges that until a permanent and systemic solution to the public liability insurance crisis is found, the Government must implement emergency measures to allow public life and events to continue without fear of unreasonable public liability exposure. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 9 **US STEEL TARIFFS:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 June 2002—Mr Baldwin, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms George—That this House:
- (1) condemns the decision of the Bush Administration to impose tariffs and quotas on Australian steel imports;
 - (2) welcomes the recent backdown on the import of hot rolled coil;
 - (3) recognises that the US decision makes a mockery of the Administration's free trade rhetoric; and
 - (4) indicates deep concern about the impact of the decision on:
 - (a) employment levels within the steel industry and in the coal and iron ore sectors; and
 - (b) the dumping of increased volumes of surplus steel. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 10 **PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 June 2002—Mr Andren, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr McArthur—That this House:
- (1) registers its concern about the escalating cost of public liability insurance, especially for smaller non-profit community groups;
 - (2) notes that a number of sporting and community groups indicate that further premium increases will curtail or end their activities in both urban and regional Australia; and

- (3) calls on the Government to co-ordinate with State Governments urgent measures to cap claims and act against the litigious culture that contributes to high insurance premiums. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 11 **WORKING AND LIVING IN REMOTE AREAS:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 June 2002*) on the motion of Mr Haase—That this House:
- (1) recognises and acknowledges the contribution made to the Australian economy by people working in remote areas of Australia;
 - (2) recognises the disparity of services and increased cost of living faced by people working and living in remote areas of Australia;
 - (3) encourages and compensates people choosing to live and work in remote areas of Australia by increasing the taxation zone rebate to an adequate level; and
 - (4) discourages the practice of fly-in, fly-out employment by restricting the payment of taxation zone rebate to permanent residents in remote areas of Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 12 **MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 June 2002*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—That this House:
- (1) recognises the need for additional funding for the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) to be allocated specifically for research into various forms of muscular dystrophy;
 - (2) notes the various forms of muscular dystrophy include Duchenne, Becker, limb girdle, congenital, facioscapulohumeral, myotonic, oculopharyngeal, distal and Emery-Dreifuss muscular dystrophies;
 - (3) acknowledges that Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is the most common lethal genetic disorder of childhood, characterised by a rapidly progressive muscle weakness which almost always results in death usually by 20 years of age, and affects approximately 1 in every 3500 boys worldwide;
 - (4) acknowledges the urgency of the need for further research into Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; and
 - (5) urges the Government to provide additional opportunities to enable medical scientists in Australia to undertake further research into muscular dystrophy. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 13 **ANZAC LEGEND:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 June 2002*) on the motion of Mr Lloyd—That this House:
- (1) notes the passing of Australia's last Anzac Gallipoli veteran, Mr Alec Campbell, and records its sympathy to his family;
 - (2) acknowledges the service and sacrifice of all Gallipoli veterans;
 - (3) notes the increasing number of young Australians who attend Anzac Day dawn services both in Australia and overseas; and
 - (4) encourages all Australians to ensure that the Anzac legend continues to be recognised and honoured. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 14 **AUSTRALIAN-CHILEAN COMMUNITY:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 June 2002*) on the motion of Ms Roxon—That this House:
- (1) notes that members of the Australian-Chilean community who were victims of suffering, torture, expulsion and exile at the hands of the Pinochet regime in Chile now receive a "pension of mercy" from the Chilean Government as a reparation for their suffering;
 - (2) expresses concern that these members of the Australian-Chilean community have their entitlement to an Australian pension affected by the Chilean payments while other people receiving similar payments, such as victims of the Holocaust who receive compensation from Germany or Austria "as victims of National Socialist Persecution", have these payments exempt for the purposes of income testing;
 - (3) recognises that these Australian-Chileans make a significant social and economic contribution to the Australian community and should be eligible for equal treatment and access to social security payments as other Australians; and
 - (4) calls on the Government to give those members of the Australian-Chilean community fair treatment by introducing legislation to exempt the Chilean "pensions of mercy" from the income test for

Australian pensions similar to the exemption for other compensation payments in paragraphs (n) and (p) of subsection 8(8) of the *Social Security Act 1991*. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

15 **WESTERN SYDNEY:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 June 2002*) on the motion of Mr Mossfield—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) Western Sydney is one of the fastest growing regions in Australia with a high proportion of young people;
 - (b) currently there is a negative perception of young people in Western Sydney, which is a mistaken view since Western Sydney is no different to any other region with regard to youth problems and youth achievements;
 - (c) there needs to be public recognition of the achievements of young people which is linked to high self esteem and minimises anti-social behaviour;
 - (d) lack of access to educational facilities, especially information technology, has resulted in an imbalance of academic achievements; and
 - (e) there is insufficient provision of community and recreational facilities for young people in Western Sydney;
- (2) urges the Government to:
 - (a) research methods of providing adequate access to computer facilities for the disadvantaged in Western Sydney in order to close the digital divide; and
 - (b) provide urgently needed youth community facilities in the Western Sydney area to address the social needs of young people; and
- (3) acknowledges the work of the Blacktown Youth Orientation in drafting this motion and bringing these issues to light. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

16 **SHIPPING INDUSTRY:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 June 2002—Mr Wakelin, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms O'Byrne—That this House:

- (1) condemns the Howard Government for its policies that have and continue to undermine the Australian shipping industry;
- (2) recognises that this neglect puts at great risk our environment, our security and our ability to compete in the shipping industry and is therefore against Australia's national interest; and
- (3) calls upon the Minister to support the Australian shipping industry before our coastline is ravaged and our industry and merchant employment opportunities destroyed. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

17 **AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP FOR ELIGIBLE DE FACTO SPOUSES BILL 2002** (*Ms Plibersek*): Second reading (*from 24 June 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

18 **NATIONAL MONUMENT TO IMMIGRATION FUND:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 June 2002—Mr Hatton, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Nairn—That this House:

- (1) recognises the invaluable contribution that immigrants have made to Australia's development;
- (2) believes it is appropriate to recognise this through the construction of a monument in the National Capital;
- (3) supports the efforts of those who have established the National Monument to Immigration Fund which seeks to achieve this goal; and
- (4) remains informed of the progress of this project. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

19 **COCHLEAR IMPLANTS:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 June 2002—Dr Washer, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Rudd—That this House:

- (1) notes the Government's plan based on the recommendations of the Private Health Industry Medical Devices Expert Committee to remove speech processors from Appendix A, Schedule 5 of the *National Health Act 1953*, meaning the withdrawal of private health funding for upgrades and replacements for cochlear implants (bionic ears); and

- (2) calls on the Government to find a way that the profoundly deaf, especially children, can continue to secure upgrades and replacements for their cochlear implants by requiring private health funds to continue to cover the cost of the prosthesis. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 20 **SHARE OWNERSHIP:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 June 2002—Ms Roxon, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hunt—That this House:
- (1) endorses actions taken by the Australian Government to improve the spread of share ownership in Australia and to make shares available to Australians who had not previously owned shares; and
 - (2) deplors actions that have been taken which limit the spread of shares more generally to all Australians. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 21 **ILLEGAL FISHING:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 August 2002—Ms Grierson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs Moylan—That this House:
- (1) condemns the action of foreign nationals:
 - (a) illegally fishing in the Heard Island and McDonald Zone and stealing an estimated 2,000 tons of Patagonian tooth fish per month;
 - (b) for their flagrant disregard for the sovereignty of Australia’s exclusive economic zone;
 - (c) for decimating an endangered species of albatross and other seabirds by using illegal fishing methods, flouting Australian and international environment regulations; and
 - (d) for threatening the future of the species in the area and the commercial sustainability of the Patagonian tooth fish fishery;
 - (2) notes that the Australian fishing industry is limited to catching 2,815 tons of Patagonian tooth fish this year;
 - (3) notes that if this practice continues, it threatens the estimated \$30 million earned annually by the Australian fishing industry, puts at risk the direct employment of approximately 120 people and the indirect employment of approximately 500 people;
 - (4) commends the Australian Government for its decision to propose the listing of Patagonian tooth fish on schedule two of the Convention in International Trade and Endangered Flora and Fauna;
 - (5) commends the Australian Government for its previous successful apprehension by the Australian Navy of several illegal foreign fishing vessels; and
 - (6) in light of the continuing serious breaches, calls on the Government to further strengthen action to prevent any further illegal incursions of our southern Exclusive Economic Zone by:
 - (a) continuing naval action to apprehend those responsible for this illegal action;
 - (b) implementing a civilian surveillance patrol with an armed boarding capacity;
 - (c) substantially increasing the financial penalties to a level that deters future offences;
 - (d) working closely with the Australian fishing industry to strengthen surveillance and apprehend offenders;
 - (e) seeking further co-operation with the French Government whose territorial integrity is similarly threatened;
 - (f) pursuing offenders through dialogue with various countries where operations supporting illegal fishing are based; and
 - (g) ensuring Australian territorial integrity is maintained. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 22 **GENERAL PRACTITIONERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 August 2002—Mr Bartlett, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms Hall—That this House:
- (1) condemns the Howard Government for failing to address:
 - (a) the shortage of general practitioners in regional, rural and outer metropolitan areas; and
 - (b) the decline in general practitioners bulk billing in these areas; and
 - (2) calls on the Howard Government to immediately implement a strategy to address the decline and shortages. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

- 23 **GREAT APES:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 August 2002*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That this House:
- (1) notes with alarm the serious decline in the population of the Great Apes—gorillas, bonobos, orangutans and chimpanzees, which could lead to their extinction in the next 10 years;
 - (2) recognises that habitat destruction due to illegal logging, mining and associated activities including poaching, are all contributing to this threat of extinction;
 - (3) acknowledges that war, civil unrest and a breakdown in law and order also contribute to the problems in many of these habitat areas;
 - (4) notes Australian Government participation, principally through zoos and also with the Humane Society International, in the conservation of the Great Apes;
 - (5) notes the support of the UK Government for the Great Apes Survival Project, which is backed by the UN Environment Programme; and
 - (6) calls on the Federal Government to increase its support for the efforts of the UN Environment Programme to help save the Great Apes. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 24 **LOCAL LIBRARIES:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 August 2002*) on the motion of Mr Latham—That this House:
- (1) the role of Australia's 1700 municipal libraries in providing information services and community-based learning throughout the nation;
 - (2) Federal responsibility for assisting the development of the local library network, especially with new IT services; and
 - (3) ensuring the National Library of Australia's Kinetica database is affordable for local libraries. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 25 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (UNFAIR DISMISSAL—LOWER COSTS, SIMPLER PROCEDURES) BILL 2002** (*Mr Crean*): Second reading (*from 26 August 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 26 **KOKODA:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 August 2002*) on the motion of Mr Barresi—That this House:
- (1) expresses its gratitude to the "Heroes of Kokoda" as we reflect upon the 60th anniversary of the Battles to Save Australia, and accordingly give due honour and respect to the memory of these heroes by:
 - (a) supporting the development of the Kokoda Track as a National Memorial Park, which will ensure it remains a historical, cultural and commemorative experience for all Australians; and
 - (b) establishing a joint Australian and Papua New Guinean Master Plan under the guidance of Australian Government and local PNG Provincial government personnel;
 - (2) expresses support of the Government's commitment of \$1.5 million for the establishment of 3 memorials in Papua New Guinea, one of which will be constructed at Isurava to commemorate the Battle at Kokoda; and
 - (3) calls on all Australians in this the 60th anniversary month to commemorate the sacrifice of all servicemen who participated in the battles along the Kokoda Track by:
 - (a) inaugurating a National Day of Remembrance celebrated both in Australia and at Owers Corner, PNG;
 - (b) congratulating the Australian Football League, the members, supporters and administrators of the Sydney Swans and Richmond Tigers for their annual commemorative game at Stadium Australia, honouring the Spirit of Kokoda; and
 - (c) supporting the establishment of a Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel Scholarship Foundation to educate the sons and daughters of the Kokoda Trail Villagers as a sign of our nation's gratitude for the selfless sacrifice of the local people during the campaign. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)
- 27 **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 August 2002*) on the motion of Ms Plibersek—That this House:
- (1) recognises the physical, emotional and psychological damage caused by child sexual abuse;

- (2) recognises that in every state in Australia adults who have sexual relations with teenagers under the age of 16 are committing a criminal offence, and there are no excuses for this behaviour;
- (3) commits itself to providing a safe environment for every child in Australia;
- (4) commits itself to playing a role in ending sexual abuse of children overseas; and
- (5) commits itself to acknowledging and seeking to mend the harm done to victims of child sexual abuse. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

28 **MAMMARY PROSTHESES:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 August 2002*) on the motion of Ms Vamvakinou—That this House:

- (1) notes the recommendation of the February 1995 report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Community Affairs to amend the Medicare rebate schedule to include the provision of mammary prostheses;
- (2) recognises that estimates of women undergoing breast cancer surgery in Australia approach 1000 per month with more than one-third requiring a mastectomy;
- (3) recognises the ongoing cost (financial, physical and emotional) of wearing required prostheses and shell/breast forms and acknowledges the strain on muscles and posture following the loss of a breast or a significant part of the breast;
- (4) recognises the ongoing cost of prostheses and acknowledges that there is no Commonwealth Government scheme to lessen the financial burden faced by women following breast surgery for those in need of prosthetics;
- (5) notes *The Canberra Times* article “Dead women’s breast prostheses resold” appearing on 3 June 2002 detailing the reuse of mammary prostheses amongst breast cancer patients facing financial hardship;
- (6) calls on the Government to provide mammary prostheses through the Medicare rebate schedule; and
- (7) condemns the Government over budget measures where the sickest and poorest Australians and families will be hit with an increase of almost 30% in the cost of their essential medicines. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 16 September 2002.*)

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

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

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

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

- 1 **EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 22 August 2002—Mr Albanese*).
 - 2 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 22 August 2002—Mr Albanese*).
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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

On the first sitting day of each fortnight, a complete Notice Paper is published containing all unanswered questions. On subsequent days, only new questions for the sitting are included in the Notice Paper. The full text of all unanswered questions is available at:

www.aph.gov.au/house/info/notpaper/qons.pdf

13 February 2002

- 2 **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.
- 36 **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.
- 37 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is there a large number of anomalies associated with the current definition of a charity as a benevolent institution under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (ITA Act).
 - (2) Will amendments to the ITA Act need to be made to reflect community needs to enable charitable entities to benefit from tax deductible donations to assist their work.
 - (3) In view of the need for some charitable entities like the Breast Cancer Action Group NSW to undertake advocacy on behalf of their clients, is he prepared to recommend to the Government that amendments to the ITA Act should be made to ensure that such advocacy activities should not be a disqualifying criterion for Deductibility Gift Recipient Status; if not, why not.
 - (4) Does the St Vincent de Paul Society enjoy Deductible Gift Recipient Status; if so, is the Society precluded from engaging in any form of advocacy on behalf of the people it assists; if so, why; if not, why not.
 - (5) Will the Government encourage not-for-profit public good groups to address the problems of their members and others in the community by amending the definition of Deductible Gift Recipient Status so that such groups can more readily attract donations; if not, why not.
 - (6) Did the Charities Inquiry complete its report by 30 June 2001; if not, why not.
 - (7) Will the Charities Inquiry report be made available to the public during the 40th Parliament; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 40 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report in *The Age* newspaper on 26 June 2001 titled "Tax experts declare: we are confused".
 - (2) Has his attention been drawn to the comment in that report by the Tax Agents' Association President, Ray Regan that (a) this year's Taxpack has confused even the experts and (b) the Government's tax reforms had complicated the system so much that tax agents' fees would increase by 50 to 100 % this year.
 - (3) Has his attention also been drawn to a similar report in *The Canberra Times* on 26 June 2001 titled "Post-GST Taxpack too complicated: expert".
 - (4) What action is he taking to make it easier for tax agents and taxpayers to better understand this year's Taxpack.
 - (5) What action is he taking to minimise the increased costs taxpayers are bearing following the introduction of the Government's recent tax reforms.

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

- (1) Does subsection 262A(4) of the Income Tax Assessment Act require each person who is liable to pay income tax to retain their taxation records for a period of five years from the latter of the date on which the records were originally prepared or obtained, or the date on which the transactions or acts to which those records relate were completed.
- (2) Does section 70 of the Taxation Administration Act prescribe the keeping of records of indirect tax transactions for at least five years after the completing of the transactions or acts to which they relate, including the goods and services tax (GST).
- (3) Is he aware that, in light of the Government's amendments to the taxation law and in particular the introduction of the goods and services tax, the volume of records required to be kept under the provisions of these Acts will increase significantly by imposing a substantial storage cost on individual taxpayers by virtue of the Acts' record retention provisions.
- (4) In light of the increased personal financial burden of document storage costs on individual taxpayers through the introduction of the GST, will he amend the retention provisions of both Acts to reduce the retention periods from five years to three years; if not, why not

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

- (1) Is it stated at page 36 of *Taxpack 2001* that the ATO can ask taxpayers who claim work related deductions of over \$300 to justify such claims with written evidence.
- (2) How did the ATO determine the threshold of \$300 for work related deductions to require written evidence.
- (3) In determining the threshold of \$300, did the ATO consider the impact of the GST; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the Taxation Commissioner consider reviewing the threshold of \$300 for work related deductions to require written evidence; if not, why not.

43 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What percentage of (a) barristers and (b) solicitors pay the top marginal rate of income tax.

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

- (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.

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

- (1) Will he provide details of the parent controlling interest of Airport Motorways Limited.
- (2) Will he provide details of the majority shareholders of Infrastructure Trust Australia (ITA).
- (3) Is Macquarie Bank one of the bidders for Sydney Airport.
- (4) Can the possibility that cross-industry of infrastructure associated with Sydney Airport, including road access to that airport, constitute monopolistic-like control of infrastructure to Sydney Airport.

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

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a media release from the Productivity Commission, dated 24 August 2001, titled "Price Regulation of Airport Services" in which the Productivity Commission recommends as its preferred option a five-year period of price and conduct monitoring for Sydney Airport, with no direct control over that period.
- (2) If so, (a) upon what policy basis is this recommendation based, (b) upon what policy basis and instruments is the existing regulatory regime of price caps and regulation founded, (c) will he table copies of these policy instruments in the House and (d) will he table the policy reasoning that has led to the recommendation by the Commission that a monitoring regime be initiated.
- (3) Further to the media release and an article at page 56 in the *Australian Financial Review* of 25-26 August 2001 concerning the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) overall ruling on Sydney's aeronautical charges, (a) what is the policy rationale for the system of dual till pricing and (b) what impact will a dual till pricing system have on charges for consumers.
- (4) Does the Commission's judgment conflict with the ACCC's overall ruling to increase aeronautical charges.
- (5) What impact will the ACCC's decision to increase aeronautical charges by 97% have on the second till non-aeronautical tenants, including shop owners, parking station owners and restaurants at Sydney Airport.
- (6) Will the 97% increase in aeronautical charges decrease turnover for the non-aeronautical tenants at Sydney Airport due to increased airfares and other charges thus economically pricing out prospective consumers of Sydney Airport services.
- (7) Will the new two-till system enable the prospective bidders for Sydney Airport's airport lease to increase non-aeronautical tenants' rents, thus decreasing profitability for those non-aeronautical tenants at Sydney Airport.
- (8) Will he provide case references for the court actions referred to in the *Australian Financial Review* article.
- (9) Are the terms of settlement between the parties in the litigation matters in the public interest and should be disclosed.
- (10) In which court did the proceedings take place.
- (11) Were proceedings in the relevant court closed proceedings.
- (12) Are the terms of the out of court settlement in the public interest and do they warrant public scrutiny.
- (13) Do the terms of the out of court settlement directly impact on persons not party to the legal proceedings, including the general public and non-aeronautical tenants of Sydney Airport; if not, why not.
- (14) Upon what policy basis does the Productivity Commission seek to avoid the currently high level of regulatory involvement.
- (15) Will he seek to challenge the Commission's findings regarding its judgment or does he agree with the Commission's findings; if so, why; if not, why not.
- (16) Why does the Commission consider the current level of regulatory involvement as high.
- (17) Will he seek advice from the Commission to explain what is the existing policy of the current regulatory regime.
- (18) Are aeronautical services for Sydney Airport subject to price surveillance and are aeronautical related services subject to price monitoring.
- (19) Is Sydney Airport subject to pricing regulation under the Prices Surveillance Act.
- (20) Is Sydney Airport further subject to the current regulations under the Prices Surveillance Act made in 1997.
- (21) Would the current arrangements of pricing regulation apply only for the first five years of operation of the lease of Sydney Airport and Sydney Basin airports.
- (22) Further to the statement in relation to terms of reference No. 5 of the Commission draft report titled "Price Regulation of Airport Services", (a) what is the policy rationale for the premise that the price caps applied to aeronautical services will no longer operate, (b) what is the policy rationale for applying this regulation for only a five year period, (c) what event or milestone date did the Government contemplate in 1997 that predicated a sunset clause to terminate a price surveillance regulatory regime such as the 1997 regulations and (d) were the regulations instituted with a view to

the elimination of price capping in 2002; if so, what is the policy basis to eliminate the price capping provisions in 2002.

- (23) Did he contemplate in 1997 the sale of Sydney Airport by transfer of the airport lease from Sydney Airport Corporation to a private person; if so, at the time of making his prices surveillance regulation that currently regulates Sydney Airport, did he know that the airport would be leased to a private entity or corporate person who is not the current lessee.
- (24) In 1996 when the then Minister for Transport and Regional Services made his second reading speech on the Airports Bill 1996, was it stated that Sydney Airport would not be sold until Sydney Airport's aircraft noise problems had been solved.
- (25) Did he know whether the pricing regulatory regime must accommodate a financial component that satisfies all policy objectives of Government, including solving Sydney Airport's aircraft noise problems through the full introduction of the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) and the completion of a genuine environmental impact statement (EIS) for Sydney West Airport and the construction of that airport.
- (26) Does paragraph 8(1)(b) of the Productivity Commission Act state that a general policy guideline of the Commission is to reduce regulation of industry, including regulation by the States, Territories and local government, where this is consistent with the social and economic goals of the Commonwealth Government.
- (27) Is he able to say whether the LTOP is a Ministerial Direction issued by power given to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services under section 16 of the Air Services Act.
- (28) Is the LTOP, for the purposes of paragraph 8(1)(b) of the Productivity Commission Act, a social and economic goal of the Commonwealth Government; if not, why not.
- (29) Is the construction of Sydney West Airport at Badgerys Creek a social and economic goal of the Commonwealth Government, pursuant to paragraph 8(1)(b) of the Productivity Commission Act; if not, why not.
- (30) Is it reasonable for the Commission to accept submissions at public hearings into the draft report on the Price Regulation of Airport Services, concerning the two relevant social and economic goals of the Commonwealth Government referred to in part (25).
- (31) Is it reasonable for the Commission to consider these goals when considering the terms of reference to the Price Regulation of Airport Services at Sydney Airport; if not, why not, given paragraph 8(1)(b) of the Productivity Commission Act.
- (32) Can price regulation be used to administer environmental control of Sydney Airport in meeting the Government's social and economic goals and fulfilling the LTOP.
- (33) Does paragraph 8(1)(e) of the Productivity Commission Act state that a general policy guideline of the Commission is to recognise the interests of industries, employees, consumers and the community, likely to be affected by measures proposed by the Commission.
- (34) Does the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) and its members represent members of the community likely to be affected by measures proposed by the Commission; if not, (a) why not and (b) will he notify the Productivity Commissioner under the powers given him pursuant to subsection 8(2), that the SACF and its members be considered members of the community likely to be affected by measures proposed by the Commission; if not, why not.
- (35) Is he able to say whether, by virtue of membership of the SACF, members of the SACF constitute part of a statutory committee established under the auspice of the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services and as such, constitute a formal element of the public interest process of community consultation as established by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- (36) In fulfilling its obligations under section 8 of the Productivity Commission Act, must the Commission consider environmental and ecological constraints as part of the Act's general policy guidelines; if not, why not.
- (37) Will he notify the Productivity Commissioner in writing under the powers given him pursuant to subsection 8(2) that the (a) full implementation of the LTOP and (b) construction of Sydney West Airport before the sale of Sydney Airport as a strategic solution to solving Sydney Airport's aircraft noise problems, are matters going to the operation of paragraph 8(1)(b) as a social and economic goal of the Commonwealth Government and need to be considered as part of the Commission's terms of reference in respect to the draft report on Price Regulation of Airport Services; if not, why not.

- (38) Is the Commission's scope of inquiry into Price Regulation of Airport Services narrow as it has not been directed to report on whether relevant Government social, economic and other goals are adversely affected, compromised or negated; if not, why not.
- (39) Is the Commission's direction of recommendations flawed in that the Commission is not being called upon to identify relevant issues going to social and economic goals.
- (40) For the purposes of clause 9 of the draft report's scope of inquiry, do key interest groups and affected parties include the SACF and its members.
- 48 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Does he have administrative portfolio responsibility for Part IIIA of the Trade Practices Act.
 - (2) Does section 50AA of the *Corporations Act 2001* define control of a corporation in a broad manner, without specifying the percentage of controlling interest.
 - (3) Does schedule 1 of clause 6 of the Broadcasting Services Act state that if a person has an interest in a company exceeding 15%, the person is to be regarded as being in a position to exercise control of the company.
 - (4) Pursuant to the Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act, is 15% the test applied for him to block acquisitions that would result in the control of a business passing to foreign persons.
 - (5) Is he able to say whether, pursuant to the *SANTOS (Regulation of Shareholdings) Act 1989* (SA), no shareholder can own more than 15% of SANTOS.
 - (6) Pursuant to the clause 850B of the Financial Services Reform Bill 2001, is 15% the test applied to prevent market operators such as the Australian Stock Exchange or the Sydney Futures Exchange before ministerial approval is required.
 - (7) Pursuant to the Financial Sector (Shareholdings) Act, is a person prohibited from holding a stake of greater than 15% in an authorised deposit-taking institution.
 - (8) What is the policy rationale upon which the figure of 15% is based.
 - (9) At 15%, does the operation of a parent company over pairs of airport lessee companies constitute a controlling interest; if not, why not.
 - (10) Does the parent shareholding interest provisions for paired ownership of Australian airports bring this threshold of 15% into conflict with Part IIIA of the Trade Practices Act; if not, why not.
- 77 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Treasurer—For the years ending 30 June (a) 1999, (b) 2000 and (c) 2001, (i) how many taxpayers claimed the dependent spouse rebate, (ii) how many taxpayers had tax debts and penalties raised against them for failure to include Basic Parenting Allowance in the Separate Net Income section of their returns, (iii) what was the average time between lodgement date and when taxpayers were notified of the debts referred to in part (ii), (iv) how many taxpayers with debts described in part (ii) lodged formal objections with the Australian Taxation Office and (v) of the formal objections lodged, how many have resulted in having the tax shortfall penalty waived.
- 85 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—Does the Government have any plans to abandon and or modify the Diesel and Alternative Fuels Grants Scheme; if so, what are the Government's proposals.
- 91 **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.
- 92 **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 (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000 and (c) 2000-2001.
- (4) What will be the impact of these departures on the time taken to process taxation returns.
- (5) Have staff been transferred out of the Large Business and International business line; if so, how many.
- (6) What has been the cost of outsourcing the information technology function to EDS in each financial year since this first occurred.
- (7) What percentage of the ATO budget was allocated to information technology in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 1998-99, (d) 1997-98 and (e) 1996-97.
- (8) 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.

93 **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.

94 **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.

95 **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.

96 **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.

97 **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.
- 98 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Was Andersen Consulting appointed to conduct a wide-ranging overhaul of the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) client relations, including dealings with taxpayers.
 - (2) What was the estimated cost of this overhaul.
 - (3) Was Minter Research awarded a \$90 000 contract to review ATO relations with non-business clients.
 - (4) Was 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.
- 99 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Was Black Is White 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.
- 101 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did his Department receive a license agreement for the Super Dome box; if so, what was the basis of the agreement.
 - (2) 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 was the breakdown of other costs incurred by him and other Ministers when entertaining guests during the Olympic Games.
- 103 **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) 2002-2003 financial years.
- 115 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Did the former Minister for Financial Services and Regulation 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 the former Minister 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.
- 119 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With respect to each of the OECD member nations, what (a) waiting time is required to become a citizen, (b) countries provide for dual citizenship, (c) is the per capita migration intake, (d) is the per capita skilled migration intake, (e) is the per capita refugee migration intake, (f) countries provide for permanent recognition of refugees, (g) is the per capita contribution to the UNHCR and (h) proportion of their populations were born overseas.
- 130 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—What sum was spent during (a) 1998-1999, (b) 1999-2000 and (c) 2000-2001 on (i) consultation, (ii) transport, (iii) acquisition and (iv) storage in respect of wines for the Prime Minister's Lodge and Kirribilli House.

19 February 2002

154 **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.

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

- (1) When examining Mass Marketed Tax Effective Schemes in the process of preparing position papers, did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) examine the original prospectuses of the various schemes; if so, which schemes; if not, why.
- (2) Did the ATO find differences between the original information contained in the prospectus and the actual operation of the schemes; if so, which schemes.
- (3) Did the ATO find evidence of round robin arrangements associated with the payment of management fees from a non-recourse loan facility available to investors in any of the schemes; if so, which schemes.
- (4) Did the ATO find any evidence of any illegal activities in relation to round robin schemes; if so, was this evidence passed on to Australian Securities Investments Commission (ASIC) or any other investigative or regulatory body; if not, why not.
- (5) Did the ATO find any evidence that investors had knowledge of round robin schemes that were contrary to the scheme's original prospectus.
- (6) What statutory requirements does the ATO have to refer suspected breaches of Corporations law to ASIC.
- (7) When examining tax effective schemes, did the ATO make any inquiries with any investors in schemes, other than the project manager and its directors, to determine their knowledge of, or consent to round robin arrangements; if so, how many investors were interviewed or queried and in what specific schemes did this occur.
- (8) Were steps taken by the ATO or any other agency to protect the rights of investors in regard to the financial viability of these schemes; if, so what steps were taken and in which schemes were they taken.
- (9) Did the ATO investigate international agreements being entered into by schemes that were claimed as managerial or marketing services to the scheme; if so, which schemes were involved in this type of activity and what was the result of these investigations.
- (10) In relation to international agreements being used as a round robin device by schemes, was there any investigation by the ATO that this type of arrangement may have constituted an activity with the dominant purpose of avoiding or evading taxation; if so, did the ATO proceed to disallow any tax deductions made by the management company in relation to the international arrangements and funding.
- (11) Did the ATO proceed to further investigate, prosecute or refer for prosecution any parties involved in these international transactions.
- (12) Did the ATO find any evidence that investors in schemes knowingly participated in or approved round robin transactions or international arrangements or funding; if so, on what basis did the ATO determine that penalty payments should be applied to those investors in their notices of reassessment.

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

- (1) In relation to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) treatment of Mass Marketed Tax Effective Schemes, will he list the projects that the ATO has investigated and to which he has applied a Part IVA ruling.
- (2) Which projects is the ATO currently investigating.

- (3) Will he provide a list of the number of investors in each of these projects who have received amended assessments as a result of a Part IVA ruling.
- (4) In relation to (a) Budplan schemes, (b) Satcom, (c) Koala Hydroponics and (d) Maincamp, will he provide the number of participants in those schemes who were contacted by the ATO when preparing their position paper prior to the issuing of amended assessment.
- (5) How many submissions were made to the ATO by investors in (a) Budplan schemes, (b) Satcom, (c) Koala Hydroponics and (d) Maincamp in response to the ATO position paper.
- (6) In relation to these schemes, what time frame was spent by the ATO examining these submissions and what was the time frame between issuing the position paper and the issuing of amended assessments.

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

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the existence of the Part IVA Panel at the Australian Taxation Office.
- (2) What is the specific role of the panel.
- (3) Is the panel a formal body; if so, what powers does it have.
- (4) Who are the members of the panel.
- (5) Who appoints the members of the panel.
- (6) How many meetings did the panel have in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000 and (f) 2001.
- (7) Are minutes kept of the meetings of the panel.
- (8) Are the minutes of these meetings readily available for scrutiny by the public.

11 March 2002

197 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Was he Treasurer of Australia when the Committee of Inquiry concerning Public Duty and Private Interest presented its report in July 1979.
- (2) Did the Committee recommend that the standards expected of Ministers and ministerial staff other than public servants in relation to post-separation employment should be brought to their attention when they take office and again upon their departure from office.
- (3) Were these standards brought to the attention of the Hon. Peter Reith (a) when he took office as Minister of Defence and (b) when he departed from that office; if so, by what persons, on what dates and by what means.

12 March 2002

202 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many applications for the First Home Owner Grant for the (a) construction of new dwellings and (b) purchase of existing dwellings were approved in each month in each State and Territory since the scheme commenced.
- (2) For each of the applications approved, what was the postcode of the applicant.

20 March 2002

255 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many First Home Owner Grants have been made since the commencement of the scheme.
- (2) What sum has been paid out in grants since the commencement of the scheme.
- (3) Are applicants for the grant required to live in the home for which the grant was given for any fixed period of time.
- (4) Are recipients of the grant permitted to lease the home for which the grant was made for any fixed period of time; if so, how are grant applicants advised of this condition.
- (5) Is the scheme audited to ensure that applicants have not previously owned residential property; if so, what checks are carried out to confirm the status of the applicant.
- (6) Are these checks carried out on all applicants or only a sample.
- (7) Is the scheme audited to ensure that applicants do not lease the property for which the grant applied for any period of time proscribed in the conditions for the grant; if so, what checks are carried out to confirm the applicant's compliance with this condition.

- (8) Are these checks carried out on all applicants or only a sample.
- (9) Have any persons been found to have breached this condition.
- (10) What action has been taken against any persons found to have breached this condition.
- (11) What penalties does the scheme allow when conditions are breached.

260 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is the rental contract for the premises of the Launceston Australian Taxation Office on a month by month arrangement.
- (2) Is there any intention to close or relocate this office.

21 March 2002

269 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—What were the details of operational deployments of Australian Defence Force personnel from 1972 to the present date, including personnel numbers, relevant services and branches involved.

281 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) In relation to the collapse of Commercial Nominees Australia (CNA), why, when the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) required CNA to stop accepting contributions to the ECMT from AWERF, the Network Superannuation Fund and Midas Superannuation Fund, did it allow CNA to continue accepting contributions from approximately 475 small APRA funds (SAFs).
- (2) Why did APRA remove CNA as Trustee for the 475 SAFs two months after removing CNA as the trustee for the three funds mentioned in part (1).
- (3) Was APRA aware that, at the time it removed CNA as trustee, CNA was negotiating with Perpetual Trustees Limited to take over the administration of some or all of the 475 SAFs; if not, why not.
- (4) What process was used by APRA to appoint Oak Breeze, a liquidator, as the temporary trustee of the 475 SAFs given its lack of experience in this area and the work already undertaken by Perpetual Trustees with regard to the SAFs and their compliance.
- (5) What guarantees did APRA seek from Oak Breeze that it would fulfil its claim of bringing all SAFs to a level of compliance by 31 October 2001.
- (6) How many funds were actually brought to a level of compliance by this date.
- (7) How many funds have been brought to a level of compliance since 31 October 2001.
- (8) What guarantees or limits did APRA seek from or place on Oak Breeze or Price Waterhouse Coopers regarding fees and charges in relation to the administration of the SAFs.
- (9) Are these guarantees or limits different from the standard required under the Superannuation Industry Supervision Act (SIS Act) for other trustees of superannuation funds; if so why.
- (10) Have the protocols between the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and APRA, detailed in the Senate Select Committee Report, been agreed to and executed by both agencies; if not, what is the anticipated time frame for this to occur.
- (11) What is the anticipated time frame for the Minister to make a decision regarding the implementation of section 229 of the SIS Act.

14 May 2002

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

- (1) How many kilometres of the Hume Highway between Sydney and Albury are not duplicated and remain single carriageway.
- (2) What are the sections referred to in part (1).
- (3) What is the cost of duplicating each section.
- (4) What is the cost of completing the full duplication as one project.
- (5) How many road accidents and fatalities have occurred in each section of the highway referred to in part (1) in each of the past five years.
- (6) Are there any projects underway or plans for completing the outstanding duplication works over the next five years; if so, what are the projects and where and when will they be undertaken.

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

- (1) What sum has been, or will be, spent on the National Highway in each year from 1995-96 until 2005-2006.

- (2) What proportion of those funds has been or will be spent on (a) planning and design, (b) construction and (c) maintenance in each of those years, by State and Territory.
- 331 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What criteria have been used to select roads for funding under the Black Spot program since 1996.
 - (2) Who have chaired the relevant State and Territory Black Spot Panels.
 - (3) Where and what sum of Black Spot funding has been granted in each (a) municipality or shire and (b) House of Representatives electoral division.
 - (4) In relation to Black Spot funding in federal electoral divisions, which party held the particular electoral division at the time any grant was made.
- 332 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Since March 1996 how many feasibility studies or seeding grants have been funded from programs currently administered by his Department.
 - (2) Which programs have provided the funding for each feasibility study and seeding grant.
 - (3) What sum was allocated to each feasibility study and seeding grant.
 - (4) How many of these feasibility studies and seeding grants have matured into projects.
 - (5) How many of these projects have received funding from programs currently administered by his Department.
 - (6) From which programs has this funding been provided.
- 333 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) During the operation of Airservices Australia's contingency plan for continuing air traffic control and aviation technical operations during recent industrial action by Airservices Australia staff, was there a near miss between two regular public transport jets allegedly caused by failure to adhere to, or lack of knowledge of, the contingency procedures.
 - (2) Did two jet aircraft enter controlled airspace from the Temporary Restricted Area (TRA) on converging courses, both on different radio frequencies, each apparently not aware of the other aircraft, and which were detected in time to prevent an accident.
 - (3) Were there instances where there was not timely notification of procedures to adjacent air traffic control units to enable controllers to become familiar with the temporary procedures.
 - (4) Where there instances of confusion of local time zones and universal coordinated time by the National Airways Contingency Coordinating Committee in position reports to air traffic control units adjacent to the TRA.
 - (5) Were there instances of confusion as to what aircraft were in the TRA, particularly in non-radar areas and where aircraft were on routes that were not published in the contingency plans.
 - (6) Were there situations where aircraft were operating on routes different to those advised to the adjacent air traffic control units.
 - (7) Were there other incidents; if so, what are the details.
 - (8) Was a safety case conducted into the contingency plan before it was implemented; if not, why not; if so, will he provide a copy.
 - (9) Has he ordered an investigation into these incidents; if not, why not; if so, (a) when will it report and (b) who is undertaking the investigation.
- 334 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) During the recent industrial action at Airservices Australia, did management redesignate the airspace surrounding Australia's busiest general aviation airports, Archerfield, Moorabbin, and Bankstown to Class G airspace, with mandatory broadcast zone procedures implemented instead of the mandated air traffic control services; if so, (a) who made the decision to not require air traffic control services in this airspace, (b) when was the decision made and (c) was a safety case conducted before the decision was made; if not, why not; if so, will he provide a copy of the safety case.
 - (2) Did any accidents or incidents occur during this alteration to the normal operating arrangements; if so, (a) how many, (b) where did they occur, (c) what was the nature of those incidents or accidents and (d) are investigations being conducted; if so, (i) by whom and (ii) when will a report be presented.
 - (3) If investigations are under way, will the reports include the impact of the decision to change the normal operating procedures during the industrial action.

- (4) Is he confident that all due care and attention was given to aviation safety during this period by Airservices Australia management.

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

- (1) During the operation of Airservices Australia's contingency plan for continuing air traffic control and aviation technical operations during recent industrial action by Airservices Australia staff, did Airservices Australia declare Temporary Restricted Areas (TRAs) over the high seas outside Australian Territory and Australian Territorial Waters; if so, who determined that the TRAs should be declared.
- (2) Did the TRAs comply with ICAO requirements and definitions, Australian aviation legislation and regulations and Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) requirements and definitions.
- (3) Was advice given about the legality of the declarations under Australian and international law; if so, who provided that advice and can a copy of that advice be provided.
- (4) Did any air safety incidents occur as a result of the TRA declarations; if so, what are the details.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 106 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2002, page 2036) concerning the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and the services of Mr A. Shand, QC and Mr Harvey in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal matter involving Whyalla Airlines, what was the total sum paid to each lawyer.
- (2) With respect to the external legal services for each of the last five years for CASA, (a) what sums were paid to each lawyer in each year, (b) who were the lawyers and (c) in which legal proceedings were they involved.

15 May 2002

359 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many families and individuals in the electoral division of Hasluck have received a (a) Family Tax Benefit debt notice and (b) Child Care Benefit debt notice.
- (2) How many child care centres in the electoral division of Hasluck have received a debt notice arising from the old Child Care Assistance Scheme.
- (3) What steps is the Government taking to guarantee that families will not be penalised by the current income self assessment regime where their incomes fluctuate through no fault of their own, because they carry out varying amounts of overtime in their employment, or their employment is commission based, or where one of the partners returns to the workforce after raising children.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that on pages 3 and 4 of the *Estimating your Income* booklet produced by the Family Assistance Office, the suggestions for estimating income for the year ahead include (a) knowing whether the recipient or his or her partner will receive termination or insurance payments or (b) predicting whether a partner will recommence work; if so, should individuals be expected to know whether they will lose their jobs, have to make an insurance claim or take up new employment in the forthcoming year.

364 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What criteria are followed by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) in determining which ATO Access sites should be maintained or closed.
- (2) What criteria are applied in determining the provision of ATO Access sites in (a) regional and (b) metropolitan areas.
- (3) What is the reason for differential treatment in determining ATO Access sites for regional and metropolitan areas.
- (4) What is the average cost to the ATO per inquiry of answering a (a) telephone and (b) counter inquiry.
- (5) How is the service provided by the personal tax phone service different to the service available over the counter.
- (6) Is the personal tax phone service regarded as inferior to the counter service; if so, why does the ATO use different criteria for determining the location of counter services in regional Australia compared with metropolitan areas.
- (7) What action has he taken to ensure all Australians have equal access to ATO inquiry services.

16 May 2002

367 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What measures is the Commonwealth taking to address the current crisis in public liability insurance for community and sporting groups.
- (2) What are the timeframes for implementation of Commonwealth measures.
- (3) Do these measures provide any guarantee that public liability insurance premiums will reduce in price.
- (4) Under the proposed Commonwealth Government measures are there any direct controls over insurance companies to take into account an organisation's claims history and risk management strategies.
- (5) Will the Government take direct measures to combat the problem by setting up a uniform national insurance scheme; if not, why not.
- (6) Will the Government take direct measures to set minimum standards for insurance claims through the introduction of an Insurance Claims Act; if not, why not.
- (7) Will the Government amend the Insurance Contracts Act to require insurance companies to charge premiums that take into account an organisation's risk management strategies and claims history; if not, why not.
- (8) Will the Government restore the power previously in the Insurance Contracts Act which allowed a representative on behalf of members of the public to take legal action against insurance companies that ignored risk assessment strategies and claims histories on the grounds that they breached the duty of good faith; if not, why not.

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

- (1) What role does the Accounting Standards Board have in the setting of standards for the accounting industry.
- (2) Do the standards developed and approved by the Accounting Standards Board apply to the insurance industry.
- (3) Following the collapse of (a) United Medical Protection (UMP) and allegations that the accounting practices used by UMP were other than standard within the industry and (b) HIH, has the Accounting Standards Board undertaken investigations into this matter; if not, why not; if so, (i) what investigations were carried out, (ii) what conclusions have been drawn from those investigations and (iii) have the results and conclusions been communicated to the accounting and insurance industries.

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

- (1) What responsibility does the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) have in ensuring the stability and prudential operation of individual providers within the insurance industry.
- (2) What level of financial disclosure does APRA require of general insurers in discharging its responsibilities.
- (3) What action, if any, is APRA empowered to take in regard to insurers that fail prudential standards.
- (4) On what date did APRA become aware of the technical insolvency of United Medical Protection (UMP).
- (5) What action, if any, is APRA required to take upon becoming aware of the insolvency.
- (6) What action did APRA take upon becoming aware of any difficulties faced by UMP.
- (7) If no action was taken by APRA relating to UMP in the period leading up to the voluntary appointment of administrators, has APRA adequately discharged its responsibilities.

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

- (1) What investigations have been undertaken by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) into the operation of providers of professional indemnity insurance.
- (2) On what dates did these investigations occur.
- (3) Were investigations of a similar nature undertaken into United Medical Protection (UMP); if so, on what dates did they take place.
- (4) On what date did APRA become aware of the prudential difficulties being faced by UMP.
- (5) On what date was he advised of the difficulties facing UMP.

(6) Does he maintain confidence in the operations of APRA as they relate to UMP.

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

- (1) How many (a) disability pensioners, (b) aged pensioners and (c) Common Youth Allowance recipients reside in the electoral division of Chisholm.
- (2) How many (a) disability pensioners, (b) aged pensioners and (c) Common Youth Allowance recipients reside in each of the postcode areas within the electoral division of Chisholm.

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

- (1) How many recipients of Family Tax and Child Care Benefit in the electoral division of Chisholm in (a) 2001 and (b) 2002 received written notification of a debt to the Commonwealth in relation to payment of those benefits.
- (2) How many of these benefit recipients resided in each of the postcode areas in the division of Chisholm.
- (3) What was the average debt to the Commonwealth in relation to these benefits.
- (4) What was the (a) average and (b) largest debt in each postcode area within the electoral division of Chisholm in relation to these benefits.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to part (4) of question No. 33 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2002, page 2028) what is his authority for his response that a small number of persons have been abusing the free call facility by lodging hundreds of calls each month.
- (2) Where do these complainants live.
- (3) What independent and objective investigation has he undertaken to satisfy himself of the veracity of the alleged other members of the public who have objected to this behaviour as they believe it can give a distorted picture of how the noise is actually distributed between the suburbs.
- (4) Where do these other members of the public live.
- (5) Are these other members of the public members of the Liberal Party.

385 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Can the Minister explain how a salary increase of 11.5% granted to social services employees under the new Social and Community Services award in NSW on 28 November 2001 can be adequately covered by an indexed annual increase of 2.54% for the express purpose of wages growth as reported in *The Australian* on 18 February 2002.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that (a) the wages of employees under this award have increased incrementally with each of the Industrial Relations Commission's safety net adjustments, (b) these incremental rises have absorbed the indexed increases in Commonwealth funding and (c) massive increases in other fixed costs such as insurance have further eroded any benefit to be had from the indexed Commonwealth funding increase.
- (3) In light of the fact that the annually indexed increase in Commonwealth funding has been absorbed as intended, is it a fact that the community service groups who rely on Commonwealth funds do require additional funding to meet the increased costs of the new award.

27 May 2002

388 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—

- (1) Can the Minister provide a list of all individual grants, their respective managers, and the amount of funds for each of the 50 projects within the electoral division of Melbourne Ports in the 2000-2001 financial year, granted by the Australia Council and totalling \$12,750,605.
- (2) Can the Minister provide a list of all individual projects, their respective managers, and the amount of funds for each of the 62 projects within the electoral division of Melbourne Ports in the 1999-2000 financial year, granted by the Australia Council and totalling \$6,983,724.
- (3) Can the Minister provide a list of all individual projects, their respective managers, and the amount of funds for each of the 81 projects within the electoral division of Melbourne Ports in the 1998-1999 financial year, granted by the Australia Council and totalling \$7,216,512.

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

- (1) Was it stated during the Minister's address at the Post-Budget breakfast address at the Westin Hotel on 15 May 2002, that there is an estimated increase of \$300m for auditing functions of the Australian

Taxation Office (ATO); if not, what is provided in the 2002-2003 Budget for auditing functions within the ATO.

- (2) Has an estimated \$39m been allocated for 3000 additional personnel for auditing functions; if not, what is the allocation in the 2002-2003 Budget for additional auditing personnel, if any.
- (3) If no sum is allocated, will funds be allocated for this additional capacity by the ATO; if not, why not.
- (4) What part of this budget goes towards collection of moneys from corporations.
- (5) Is the Minister able to say whether revenue moneys collected from media corporations represent the correct amount of company tax; if so, what revenue was collected from (a) PBL Limited, (b) News Corporation and (c) John Fairfax Holdings Ltd in 2001-2002.

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

- (1) Is it the case that the ATO's current plan, as per a draft GST ruling on prizes, will force radio stations to treat every contest and associated prize as a GST transaction.
- (2) Is it also the case that all prizes, no matter how low in value, will have to be treated as payment for the services of the listeners and that this will include packets of chips, cans of soft drink, CD's, tickets to concerts and community events, and station promotional materials such as hats, stickers and t-shirts.

28 May 2002

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

- (1) Has the Government undertaken any studies into the maintenance of Australia's "4 pillars" policy in relation to banks; if so, what was the outcome of those studies.
- (2) What is the Government's view on the application of the "4 pillars" policy.

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

- (1) How many Full Time Equivalent staff did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) have in (a) 1995, (b) 1996, (c) 1997, (d) 1998, (e) 1999, (f) 2000, (g) 2001 and (h) 2002 in Victoria.
- (2) How many ATO office locations were there in (a) 1995, (b) 1996, (c) 1997, (d) 1998, (e) 1999, (f) 2000, (g) 2001 and (h) 2002 in Victoria.
- (3) How many of the offices listed in part (2) provided or provide face to face assistance to taxpayers in (a) 1995, (b) 1996, (c) 1997, (d) 1998, (e) 1999, (f) 2000, (g) 2001 and (h) 2002.
- (4) How many GST dedicated staff were employed in the ATO in (a) 2000, (b) 2001 and (c) 2002.

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

- (1) What assessments has he or his Department made regarding compliance with the Goods and Services Tax.
- (2) What assessments has he or his Department made regarding the size of the black economy.
- (3) Has he or his Department made assessments regarding the time it takes small business to complete Business Activity Statements (BAS); if so, what is the average time that it takes a small business to complete a BAS.

30 May 2002

440 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) issue a draft taxation ruling on 15 November 2000 entitled "Income tax and fringe benefits tax: public benevolent institutions".
- (2) Does the document state at paragraph 150 that "migrant resource centres are not public benevolent institutions. A person cannot be said to be suffering misfortune, poverty, distress, etc simply because he or she is a migrant. In contrast, non-profit organisations that are predominantly to relieve directly the helplessness and distress of refugees may be public benevolent institutions".
- (3) In the period available for public comment on the draft ruling, did any other Commonwealth agencies make comments to the ATO on paragraph 150; if so, which agencies did so and what was the nature of their comments.
- (4) Has the ATO now made a final ruling on the matter; if so, what position does the ruling take on the possible public benevolent institution status of migrant resource centres and other Commonwealth funded migrant services.

- (5) If there has not yet been a final ruling on the matter, when is one expected.
- (6) What are the implications in terms of (a) income tax liabilities, (b) deductible gift recipient status and (c) eligibility for fringe benefits tax concessions if migrant resource centres and other Commonwealth funded migrant services are, or are not, considered by the ATO to be public benevolent institutions.

4 June 2002

- 463 **MS VAMVAKINO**: To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services— How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit in the electoral division of Calwell received debt notification letters in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2000-2001 and (b) 2001-2002 in the postcode areas of (i) 3036, (ii) 3037, (iii) 3038, (iv) 3043, (v) 3046 (vi) 3047, (vii) 3048, (viii) 3049, (ix) 3059, (x) 3060, (xi) 3061, (xii) 3064, (xiii) 3427 and (xiv) 3428.
- 468 **MS VAMVAKINO**: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—
- (1) How many community based child care centres are located in the electoral division of Calwell.
 - (2) What are the names and addresses of community based child care centres in the electoral division of Calwell.
 - (3) Who are the managing authorities for each centre.
 - (4) What sum of Commonwealth funding did each centre receive in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000 and (c) 2000-2001.
 - (5) Which Commonwealth funded child centres located in the electorate of Calwell have been overpaid and what sum will each child care centre be asked to repay.

5 June 2002

- 475 **MR McMULLAN**: To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) How many electors are listed on the electoral rolls for the divisions of (a) Fraser, (b) Solomon, (c) Moore, (d) Blair, (e) Reid and (f) Denison.
 - (2) How many Australian Electoral Commission staff are allocated to the divisional offices to provide services to those electors.
 - (3) What additional resources are made available to divisional offices with substantially more enrolments to assist them with the task of servicing electors.
- 478 **MR FITZGIBBON**: To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the impact the doubling of the notional employer contributions this year by the Police Superannuation Scheme actuary due to the increased number of NSW Police being medically discharged after sustaining recognised hurt on duty injuries, is having on NSW Police.
 - (2) Why are police being taxed as high income earners as a ramification of their colleagues who have been medically discharged due to being injured at work.
 - (3) Why does this anomaly exist where workers compensation for affected NSW police is included under the federal superannuation taxation regime.
 - (4) Will the Government take steps to address this important issue and to rectify the anomaly that unfairly affects NSW Police.

6 June 2002

- 483 **MR McLEAY**: To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the report in the *Australian Jewish News* of 31 May 2002 that Australians are being recruited to work with the Israeli army; if so, (a) is he able to say whether Australians are being recruited to work with the Israeli army and (b) has he ascertained who is recruiting Australians for the Israeli army.
 - (2) Is he also able to say whether this recruitment is in breach of the Crimes (Foreign Incursions and Recruitment) Act; if so, what action has he taken to enforce the law.

17 June 2002

- 522 **MR JENKINS**: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit in the electoral division of Scullin received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2000-2001 and (b) 2001-2002 in the postcode areas of (i)

3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.

523 **DRLAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the criminal trial of Mr HI.
- (2) Why did he authorise the removal of an important witness in the trial, Mr SE, while the period for appeal against conviction had not run.
- (3) Why did he not cease the removal when notified that an appeal had been lodged and Mr SE was definitely required as a witness, even though Mr SE remained in Australian waters at that time.
- (4) What steps can be taken to ensure that Mr HI will receive a fair trial.
- (5) Why did he not ensure the anonymity of Mr SE when Mr SE was called as a witness for the prosecution in the trial of another asylum seeker for people smuggling, Mr HI.
- (6) Why did he not give Mr SE the opportunity to make an application under sections 48B and 417 on the grounds of his mental health and the possibility of a surplus claim based on the publicity surrounding the evidence he gave in the case of Mr HI, given that Mr SE had done nothing of his own volition to generate the publicity.
- (7) Why did he remove Mr SE by means of the *Iran Mazandaran*, the ship upon which he arrived two years ago, despite the fact that the ship is owned and operated by the Iranian Government and it is common knowledge that all such ships have intelligence officers on board.
- (8) Did he specifically gain the consent of the Iranian Government and the Iranian national shipping company to repatriate Mr SE on the *Iran Mazandaran*; if so, what steps has he taken to ensure the Mr SE is not mistreated either on the *Iran Mazandaran* or upon arrival in Iran.
- (9) Did Mr SE sign any papers consenting to be removed; if not, by what authority was he placed on the *Iran Mazandaran*.
- (10) Has his attention been drawn to information indicating that Mr SE was suicidal and had been on hunger strike for three days when the *Iran Mazandaran* docked in Esperance on 1 June 2002.; if so, what steps did he take to ensure his mental and physical well-being before removing him and while in the *Iran Mazandaran*.

18 June 2002

535 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of recent claims that a number of Australian citizens or permanent residents have travelled to Israel to work with the Israeli army.
- (2) What are the provisions of the Crimes (Foreign Incursions and Recruitment) Act concerning the recruitment of Australian citizens to serve with an armed force in a foreign state.
- (3) Has he or any of his officers opened an investigation into claims that Australian citizens or permanent residents have been recruited to work with Israeli army units; if not, why not.

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

- (1) How long has his Department and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission had access to the Productivity Commission's review of the national third party access regime
- (2) When will the Productivity Commission's review of the national third party access regime be made public.
- (3) Why has there been a delay in terms of the Review's findings being made public.
- (4) When will the Government's promised review of the National Third Party Access Code commence.

547 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What is the total sum of Commonwealth funds allocated to the Natural Heritage Trust in the 2002-2003 Budget.
- (2) What is the total sum of Commonwealth funds spent on the Natural Heritage Trust in 2001-2002.
- (3) How many project applications for funding, under the Natural Heritage Trust were received in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 2001-2002.
- (4) How many applications were successful.
- (5) Will he list the project applications for funding in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 2001-2002, including proposals put forward by city councils or other interested organisations, from the electoral

divisions of (i) Scullin, (ii) Jagajaga, (iii) Calwell, (iv) Wills and (v) McEwen, indicating which were successful and what sum was allocated in each case; if not, why not.

- (6) Did his Department allocate funding for environmental projects for which it received no applications; if so, (a) which projects; (b) what sum was allocated in each case and (c) how were they selected.

550 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What is his Department's estimate of foreigners working illegally in Australia each year from 1996 to 2001.
- (2) How many illegal visa overstaying foreigners were removed each year from 1996 to 2001.
- (3) What was the cost of locating and removing over stayers each year from 1996 to 2001.
- (4) What departmental measures have been taken to reduce the number of over stayers.
- (5) Does his Department plan a crackdown on the location and removal of overstayers; if so, what is the extent of the proposed measures.

19 June 2002

557 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What steps are being taken to ensure that private midwives have access to affordable insurance indemnity cover, thereby allowing them to continue practising their profession.
- (2) When will the Government introduce measures to alleviate problems that large sections of the community are experiencing with exorbitant indemnity insurance.

559 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many families and individuals in Australia receive the (a) Family Tax Benefit or (b) Child Care Benefit.
- (2) How many phone calls are received by the Family Assistance Office each week.
- (3) How many phone operators are available to answer calls to the Family Assistance Office on 13 61 50.
- (4) What is the longest period callers to the Family Assistance Office on the 13 61 50 number will have to wait to have their calls answered.
- (5) In introducing a system where families and individuals receiving Family Tax Benefit or Child Care Benefit have to report any changes in their family income to the Family Assistance Office, was it envisaged that these people would have their calls answered promptly.
- (6) Is the Minister aware (a) that many Australians work in several part time or casual jobs without set hours or incomes each fortnight and must report changed circumstances regularly to the Family Assistance Office and (b) of the frustration many Australians experience in trying to call the 13 61 50 phone number to report their changed circumstances.
- (7) Is the Minister also aware that it was not possible to get through to the 13 61 50 phone number on 10 and 11 June 2002, and that on phoning the number, there was an engaged signal only.

24 June 2002

MS GRIERSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 579 - 587)—How many people with a disability are employed by the Minister's Department or agencies under the Minister's administration in the electoral division of Newcastle.

579 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

580 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Treasurer.

587 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Attorney-General.

25 June 2002

598 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and Sport—

- (1) Has the Minister been made aware by any person or body of evidence regarding fraud committed against the Australian Film Finance Corporation (AFFC) relating to its investment in 1995-96 in a children's animation program called "Crocadoo" produced by a Sydney animation company, Energee Entertainment.
- (2) Has the AFFC been presented with evidence of such fraud committed against it in this matter.
- (3) Has the AFFC informed the Australian Federal Police or the NSW Police of this matter; if not, why not.

- (4) How much was the AFFC investment into this production and what has been the return.
- (5) Under the terms of warranties provided by the production company to the AFFC, is the AFFC entitled to ask for the return of its investment; if so, will it do so; if not, why not.

26 June 2002

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

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article titled “*Noise Targets missed – Northern suburbs still bear aircraft brunt*” in the 24 June 2002 edition of the *Daily Telegraph* by Tory Maguire.
- (2) Were 26.3% of take-offs and landings in the north sector in May 2002.
- (3) Is he able to say whether the new Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) chairperson, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, said (a) she would look for new ways to meet the targets, (b) she would like to see SACF, Airservices Australia and other stakeholders keep striving to meet the targets and (c) that the disparity is a result of the safety imperatives, including pilots’ concerns about crosswind dangers using the east-west runway at times, and requirements for minimum spacing of aircraft.
- (4) What is the relevance of pilot *concern* with respect to use of the east-west runway and why is concern a criterion for non-use of the east and west approaches and departures to and from Sydney Airport when there is no scientific or reasonable basis to hold such concern.
- (5) Is it safe to use east and west aircraft arrival and departure modes under the operational parameters for aircraft movements at Sydney Airport; if so, should those modes be used in fulfilling the Government’s LTOP targets.
- (6) What are the safety criteria upon which use of a particular runway mode is assessed.
- (7) Which take-off and landing modes are relevant modes for east and west arrivals and departures for Sydney Airport.
- (8) What minimum operational limits in terms of aircraft safety are required for the safe use of the modes referred to in part (7).
- (9) Were these minimum operational limits in terms of aircraft safety known to the then Minister for Transport and Regional Services when the former Minister exercised his power to make his Ministerial Direction which brought the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) into effect; if so, will he provide the technical data and scientific information relied upon by the former Minister to determine the operational factors for the use of the east-west runway at Sydney Airport.
- (10) In light of the SACF Chairperson’s media comments, can the LTOP targets for total aircraft movements to the north, east and west of Sydney Airport ever be achieved in light of prevailing meteorological and other environmental factors; if so, when and how will those targets be achieved.
- (11) Are the LTOP targets reasonable in light of the scientific data relied upon at the time the LTOP was made; if so, why is it that the LTOP targets have never been achieved in the history of its implementation.
- (12) Why does the LTOP continue to be asserted as the answer to Sydney Airport’s aircraft noise problems, when the people residing to the north of the airport, especially those residents living in the electoral division of Lowe, continue to have their noise sharing and respite hopes dashed by perpetually unmet LTOP targets.
- (13) Were there 69 complaints from six households in Summer Hill during May 2002.
- (14) Is the new complaints line for aircraft noise now a toll line; if so, will the imposition of a fee inhibit the number of complaints about aircraft noise.
- (15) Was the number of complaints in May 2001 from Summer Hill and Ashfield 539 and 636, respectively.

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

- (1) What is the total cost to date of the Precision Runway Monitor (PRM) System project for Sydney Airport.
- (2) Have the annual delay savings expected from the commissioning of the PRM project north of Sydney Airport been calculated over the forthcoming 5 and 10 years, respectively; if not, why not; if so, what are the resulting figures.
- (3) What did the inquiry into the PRM project north of Sydney Airport cost.

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

- (1) Did the Third Runway Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) cover impacts of aircraft movements at Sydney Airport not exceeding 303,900 aircraft movements per annum.
- (2) Has a cost-benefit analysis for expansion of Sydney Airport or a Sydney region multiple airport system been conducted; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (3) Does the 2001 Sydney Airports Corporation Limited annual report state that aircraft movements at Sydney Airport totalled 317,339, and in 2000 aircraft movements totalled 293,110.
- (4) During 2001, did the total annual movements at Sydney Airport exceed the number of movements assessed in the Third Runway EIS.
- (5) Was the most recent EIS for Sydney Airport rendered obsolete when traffic at the airport exceeded 303,900 movements sometime prior to June 2001.
- (6) Has Sydney Airport no formal environmental assessment of current or future impacts.
- (7) Has he forfeited the ability to prevent Sydney Airport from reverting to almost 100% parallel runway usage by failing to maintain political control of the airport.
- (8) Is it a fact that he or any future Minister for a relevant portfolio cannot guarantee that relevant laws will never be amended or repealed during the 99 year lease for Sydney Airport.
- (9) Is it also a fact that the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) cannot be sustained for an indefinite period because (a) the only air traffic modes that enable Sydney Airport to reach 80 movements per hour are those modes that revert to parallel runway operations and (b) in reaching an 80 aircraft movements per hour, only parallel runway use can be expected when the airport approaches that ultimate capacity.
- (10) If he allows Sydney Airport to reach the ultimate capacity of 80 movements per hour over 17 hours, will Sydney residents, especially those to the north of the airport, be exposed to the noise impacts of parallel runway operations at Sydney Airport every day, that is, approximately 700 landings per day and 700 take offs per day.
- (11) What was the percentage of non-jet movements which formed part of the 303,900 movements covered by the Third Runway EIS.
- (12) Did each issue of the "Briefing Notes on Sydney Airport" make the assumption that approximately 40% of the movements at the airport are by non jet aircraft.
- (13) Did the road show video for the LTOP state that 40% of the aircraft will be propeller aircraft and thus take a different path to jet aircraft.
- (14) Has the real percentage now fallen to approximately 35 per cent; if not, what is the current actual percentage.
- (15) Is the Third Runway EIS the most recent formal environmental impact statement that has been prepared for Sydney Airport; if not, (a) what is the name of the most recent formal EIS for Sydney Airport and (b) where may a copy of this EIS be obtained.
- (16) Did regional and general aviation traffic movements at Sydney Airport fall from 113,235 (38.36 per cent of total movements) in 2000 to 109,024 (34.36 per cent of total movements) in 2001; if not, what are the correct total movements.
- (17) How many non-jet aircraft movements were there at Sydney Airport during the Sydney Airport Corporation's reporting years of 2000 and 2001.
- (18) What percentage of aircraft movements classified as domestic at Sydney Airport during the Sydney Airport Corporation's reporting years 2000 and 2001 were non-jet movements.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 16 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2002, page 2027), is it his understanding that the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) believes that the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) is fully implemented; if not, what is his understanding of SACF's current view of the LTOP in terms of its current stage of development.
- (2) In light of the announcement made on 25 June 2002 that the new airport lessee and successful bidder is Southern Cross Consortium at a price of \$5.588 billion, has he fulfilled his predecessor's repeated promises that Sydney Airport would not be sold until that airport's aircraft noise problems have been solved.
- (3) What provisions within the sale of Sydney Airport to Southern Cross compel that airport lessee company to comply with State environmental laws, in particular, laws, by-laws, codes, policies and

other instruments which govern noise pollution, air quality and traffic levels emanating in, to, from or otherwise related to that airport.

- (4) If no provisions exist, when will those provisions be made; if it is not intended to make such provisions, why not.
 - (5) Is the airport railway still under-performing in relation to original predictions of airport passenger traffic.
 - (6) What percentage of the estimated 4,250 passengers per day who currently use the railway train are actually travelling to and from the airport.
 - (7) Was the original prediction for the train to handle approximately 8% of all airport passengers.
 - (8) Is it world best practice for approximately 40% of all airport passengers to travel by public transport to and from an airport.
 - (9) Do the new owners of Sydney Airport, Southern Cross Consortium, have a conflict of interest in that other related interests such as Infrastructure Trust Australia and its subsidiary owners of feeder motorways such as the Airport Motorway and the M5 Motorway, may demand financial compensation should the airport train take business away from the motorways in future.
 - (10) Is he able to guarantee that (a) State laws, by-laws and other instruments governing air quality and (b) world's best practice in environmental management of Sydney Airport, will be complied with.
- 615 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) How many people currently in receipt of superannuation are estimated as potentially losing their superannuation entitlements as a result of the proposal by the Government to change the minimum wage eligible for the Superannuation Guarantee from \$450 a month to \$1350 a quarter.
 - (2) On which industries does the Government expect the changes in superannuation entitlements to impact most.
 - (3) Has the Government considered the estimated impact of the changes in superannuation entitlements on female workers.
- 625 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—What is the Australian Government doing to assist the resolution of conflict over self-determination for Western Sahara, particularly in relation to his representations to the Moroccan Government on this issue.
- 627 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What substantive measures is the Minister taking to facilitate the re-entry into the workforce of those mature age workers who have had career breaks or who find themselves between jobs and unable to regain a foothold in the employment market.
 - (2) How many older Australian workers have re-entered the workforce as a result of the measures.

27 June 2002

- 629 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an AAP report on 25 June 2002 titled “Sydney Airport could see reduction in aircraft noise”.
 - (2) Did he say that local residents should be reassured the Government had no intention of changing its noise policy and residents of Sydney could be confident that the sale of the airport will not change the Government's noise policy in any way as it retains full regulatory control.
 - (3) Is it a fact that the Sydney Airport Long Term Operating Plan has failed to achieve its 17% target for sharing aircraft noise to the north of the airport since its introduction in 1997; if so, what action will be taken to reduce the levels of aircraft noise currently being experienced by residents of north of Sydney Airport, including those in the electoral divisions of Grayndler and Lowe.
- 631 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 23 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2002, page 2030), what provisions, if any, has he made to prevent Bankstown Airport from attracting smaller, slower aircraft traffic from Sydney Airport, in order to comply with the various urban and rural policies and promises made by the Government and its agencies that non-jet aircraft movements at Sydney Airport will be maintained at levels of 40 % of total movements.
 - (2) Has his attention been drawn to an article titled “Prepare for landing”, dated 15 August 2001, in the *Australian Financial Review*; if so, (a) has the Government given assurances that non-jet aircraft will

not be forced out of Sydney Airport to Bankstown and other reliever airports and (b) is he aware of public fear that privatisation of Sydney Airport will lead to unprecedented and unpublicised future expansion of Sydney Airport by regional aircraft being forced by various means out of Sydney Airport.

- (3) Were two runway extensions conducted at Bankstown Airport during 1996 and 1997, which extended the operational lengths of the 11C/29C and 18/36 runways by over 300m; if not, have other runway extensions been conducted at Bankstown Airport; if so, (a) when and (b) what are their lengths and other specifications.
- (4) Did the middle parallel 11C/29C runway for Bankstown Airport have its pavement reconstructed and its operational length extended from 1111m to 1415m in 1996-97.
- (5) Has his attention been drawn to an article by Ian Thomas titled "Clearing for take-off" in the *Australian Financial Review* of 7 August 1998, at page 33; if so, (a) is he able to confirm the existence of a Federal Airports Corporation discussion paper concerning a \$5 million runway extension at Bankstown Airport that would allow the diversion of regional aircraft from Sydney to Bankstown Airport and (b) will he provide a copy of the discussion paper to the public.
- (6) Is he able to say whether during the 2001 Federal election the Hon John Fahey distributed a leaflet in the electoral division of Macarthur that suggested that if regional and other smaller flights were to divert to Bankstown then a second airport may not be required for decades to come.
- (7) Is he aware of a meeting in 1998 involving Bankstown Councillor Ian Stromborg and the Federal Member for Banks, the Hon Daryl Melham, in which Bankstown Airport management discussed plans to extend a runway and build a new and enlarged terminal.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 16 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2002, page 2027), is he aware of a letter from Airservices Australia, dated 16 April 1999, to Ms Janette Barros, in which the Manager, Sydney Operations, referred to exchange visits to the US; if so, did Airservices Australia personnel visit Minneapolis St Paul International Airport at least for the purposes of gaining hands on experience with the Precision Runway Monitor system.
- (2) If so, (a) do his answers to parts (2) and (3) to question No. 16 require revision and (b) will he provide details of when these visits were undertaken and the precise nature of them; if not, why not.

19 August 2002

635 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Did the Australian Government have any discussions, exchanges or other contact with Pakistan Government agencies concerning Mr Mamdouh Habib prior to his arrest in Pakistan in early October 2001; if so, what was the nature of such contact and when did it take place.
- (2) When and how did the Australian Government first learn that Mr Habib had been arrested and detained in Pakistan.
- (3) When and where was Mr Habib arrested in Pakistan.
- (4) Where was Mr Habib detained in Pakistan.
- (5) What Pakistan Government department or agency was responsible for Mr Habib's detention and on what legal basis was he detained in Pakistan.
- (6) Did his departmental officials seek consular access to Mr Habib while he was detained in Pakistan; if so, what representations were made to Pakistani authorities.
- (7) When and where was any consular access to Mr Habib allowed by the Pakistani authorities.
- (8) Did any Australian intelligence or law enforcement officers obtain access to Mr Habib while he was detained in Pakistan; if so, (a) what was the purpose of such access, (b) when did such access take place and (c) what Departments or agencies were involved.
- (9) Is the Australian Government aware of any access to Mr Habib by officials of other countries, apart from Australian or Pakistani officials, while he was detained in Pakistan; if so, what country or countries were involved and what was the nature of the access.
- (10) Was Mr Habib treated humanely while in the custody of the Pakistan authorities.
- (11) While in custody in Pakistan, did Mr Habib at any time express a desire to Australian officials to be returned to Australia.
- (12) Did Australian officials discuss with the Pakistan Government the possible movement of Mr Habib to Egypt or any other country.

- (13) Did Australian officials make any representations to the Pakistan Government seeking Mr Habib's return to Australia.
 - (14) When and by what means did Mr Habib travel from Pakistan to Egypt.
 - (15) When did the Australian Government first learn that Mr Habib would be, or had been, moved from Pakistan to Egypt.
 - (16) On what legal basis was Mr Habib detained by the Egyptian authorities.
 - (17) What Egyptian Government department or agency was responsible for Mr Habib's detention.
 - (18) Where was Mr Habib detained in Egypt.
 - (19) Did the Australian Government make representations to Egyptian authorities concerning consular access to Mr Habib; if so, (a) what representations, (b) when were those representations made and (c) what was the Egyptian Government's response.
 - (20) Did Australian officials obtain consular or any other form of access to Mr Habib while he was detained in Egypt; if so, what was the nature of the access provided.
 - (21) Did a spokeswoman for his Department state on 8 March 2002 that Mr Habib's detention in Egypt was confirmed by Egyptian authorities to an Australian intelligence officer; if so, when did this contact and confirmation take place.
 - (22) Was Mr Habib treated humanely while in the custody of the Egyptian authorities.
 - (23) Is the Australian Government aware of any access to Mr Habib by officials of other countries, apart from Australian or Egyptian officials, while he was detained in Egypt; if so, what country or countries were involved and what was the nature of the access.
 - (24) Did Australian officials make any representations to the Egyptian Government seeking Mr Habib's return to Australia.
 - (25) Did the Australian Government have any discussions, exchanges or other contact with US authorities concerning Mr Habib during his detention in Pakistan or Egypt and prior to his arrival in Afghanistan; if so, what were the details and when did they take place.
 - (26) Did the Egyptian or US authorities advise the Australian Government that it was intended to move Mr Habib from Egypt and place him in the custody of the US military in Afghanistan.
 - (27) When and by what means did Mr Habib travel from Egypt to Afghanistan.
 - (28) When and how did the Australian Government first learn that Mr Habib would be, or had been, moved from Egypt to Afghanistan.
 - (29) Is the Australian Government aware of any reports or allegations that Mr Habib was subjected to inhumane treatment while in the custody of Pakistani or Egyptian authorities; if so, what steps has the Government taken to investigate the reports or allegations.
 - (30) On what legal basis is Mr Habib presently detained by US authorities at Guantanamo Bay.
 - (31) Does the Australian Government consider Mr Habib to have been captured in a situation of conflict in a manner similar to Mr David Hicks; if so, on what basis has the Government made such a judgment; if not, how does Mr Habib's status differ from that of Mr Hicks.
 - (32) Does the Australian Government consider that Mr Habib is entitled to consular access by Australian officials.
 - (33) What representations has the Government made to US authorities to allow Mr Habib access to legal advisers.
 - (34) Has any assessment been made by US authorities of Mr Habib's physical and mental health; if so, has the Australian Government sought or obtained any such health assessment.
 - (35) Has the Government sought any independent assessment of Mr Habib's physical and mental health.
 - (36) Has the Government made any representations to US authorities seeking Mr Habib's return to Australia; if so, what representations have been made.
- 636 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) How many employers are estimated to be (a) non-compliant and (b) partially compliant with their legal obligation to pay superannuation guarantee contributions (SGC) for their employees under the Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act.
 - (2) How many employers are estimated to be covered by the Act.
 - (3) How many employees are estimated to have not received the superannuation guarantee contribution from their employer to which they are legally entitled.

- (4) How many complaints did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receive from employees regarding the non-compliance or partial compliance of their employers with the Act each year since 1992.
 - (5) How many of the complaints received by the ATO were resolved with full payment by the employer of all outstanding SGC monies, each year since 1992.
 - (6) From the time when a complaint is made to the ATO by an employee regarding non-payment of SGC monies, what is the average time it takes the ATO to contact the employer for the monies.
 - (7) How long on average does the ATO give an employer to pay outstanding SGC monies owing to an employee.
 - (8) How long on average from the time the ATO contacts an employer for outstanding SGC contributions, does it take the ATO to lodge a prosecution against the employer if the employer does not pay.
 - (9) How many employees are estimated to have lost their superannuation guarantee entitlements because their employer has gone bankrupt or into receivership since 1992.
 - (10) How many employers are estimated to have not paid their employees superannuation guarantee contributions because they have gone bankrupt or into receivership since 1992.
 - (11) How many prosecutions against employers for non-payment of some or all superannuation guarantee contributions were successful, for each year from 1992.
- 637 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) What mechanisms and processes are in place to alert employees to the fact that they are being underpaid their superannuation guarantee contributions by their employer, as stipulated in the Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act.
 - (2) What mechanisms does the Australian Taxation Office have in place to check that employers are paying their superannuation guarantee contributions (SGC) as stipulated in the Act.
 - (3) Why is there no requirement for employers to report all SGCs on employee payslips.
 - (4) Is the Minister aware that if an employer does not pay an employee's SGC monthly, that employee may not be covered by the death and disability insurance offered by his or her superannuation fund
 - (5) Is the Minister also aware that through the delay to introduce the requirement for employers to pay SGCs quarterly, hundreds of thousands of Australian workers will miss out on significant superannuation monies, which would have accrued through compound interest.
- 638 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Is it standard practice for State Directors of his Department to be rotated following one stint in the job.
 - (2) What are the details of recruitment growth or decline in the last 12-24 months in his Department.
 - (3) Have duties for a Senior Assistant Secretary recently been newly prescribed; if so, has someone been identified to perform those duties; if so, who.
- 639 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many departmental case officers were employed assessing applications from asylum seekers in each year from 1990 to 2001, inclusive.
 - (2) How many applications were assessed in each year.
 - (3) What was the country of origin of applicants, detailed for each year.
 - (4) On average, how long did each case take to be assessed.
 - (5) Can part (4) be broken down by country of origin; if so, what are the details for each year.
- 641 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Has his attention been drawn to reports that tapes of interviews between departmental officials and asylum seekers are being sold to people smugglers and used to coach asylum seekers in the Middle East and Pakistan; if so, (a) has he investigated this matter; if so, what has he found and (b) how are the tapes made available for sale.
- 642 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Was his Department about to close the centre at Port Hedland in 1997; if so, what evidence did his Department have on the growth in numbers of Afghan and Iraqi asylum seekers and when did it have this evidence.
- 643 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Do Budget papers state that there will be no onshore asylum seeker processing; if so, why is there an ongoing program of beautification at Woomera.

- 644 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Has an arrangement been reached between the Australian and US governments for Australia to accept Haitian and Cuban asylum seekers processed by the US at its offshore locations of Puerto Rico and Guantanamo Bay in return for the US accepting Iraqi and Afghan asylum seekers processed on Manus Island and Nauru; if so, what are its terms.
 - (2) Does this undermine the commonly accepted principle that refugees should, where possible, be resettled near countries of origin.
- 646 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) What information is provided to sponsored employees about their rights and entitlements.
 - (2) Do sponsored employees automatically receive from his Department a copy of the contract between the sponsoring employer and his Department which stipulates the wages and entitlements of the employee.
 - (3) What does his Department do to ensure sponsored employees are immediately paid wages and other entitlements on learning of cases similar to that of Rados Stevanovic.
 - (4) Can he provide an update on the progress of the resolution of Mr Stevanovic's case.
- 647 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Is he aware of allegations that ACM took four months to pay an independent local Derby contractor for work performed at the Curtin Detention Centre.
 - (2) Is he aware of allegations that sub-contractors were often paid in cash and not at the invoiced value by head contractors.
 - (3) Is he aware of allegations that some contractors purchased equipment and on-sold it at an exorbitant mark-up.
 - (4) Is he aware of allegations that, following an Australian Federal Police investigation of this alleged anti-competitive and corrupt behaviour, the detective involved was transferred suddenly.
 - (5) If so, what steps have been taken to investigate these allegations and what are the results of any such investigation.
 - (6) Can he guarantee that no equipment or infrastructure will be or has been removed from the Curtin Detention Centre given the fact that it is to be closed.
- 648 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Has the number of people processing visitors at Villawood Detention Centre been reduced from 2 to 1; if so, (a) did his Department authorise the cutback and (b) is the cutback due to Commonwealth cutbacks in any way.
- 649 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Who will be detained at the Baxter Immigration Reception and Processing Centre.
 - (2) What are the final figures for the Baxter centre, including both construction costs and projected running costs.
- 650 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Were funds provided for the Singleton, Coonawarra and El Alamein Immigration Reception and Processing Centres during the period 1 July 2001 to February 2002, yet there were no detainees at those centres; if so, on what were the funds spent.
- 651 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Does the Budget state that the Government has announced a policy for the offshore reception and processing of unauthorised boat arrivals seeking asylum, either at facilities on Australia's external territories which are excluded from the migration zone or third countries; if so, why is money being spent on the Baxter Immigration Reception and Processing Centre and why is money scheduled to be spent at Darwin and Brisbane.
 - (2) What was budgeted for the construction of the proposed Brisbane detention centre in budgets prior to the 2002-2003 Budget.
 - (3) What are the costs now budgeted and not disclosed in the 2002-2003 Budget.
 - (4) What, if any, discrepancy is there between the two sets of figures.
 - (5) Can his Department give a commitment that these centres will be used; if so, when.
 - (6) What is the future for Port Hedland.

- 652 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) In each of the last three years, how many detainees who were found to be genuine refugees spent further time in detention awaiting a security clearance.
 - (2) What is the (a) average, (b) longest and (c) shortest length of time a detainee has spent awaiting for such a clearance.
 - (3) What steps are taken in relation to such security clearances and by whom are they taken.
 - (4) Is the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) involved in the security clearance process; if so, is he able to say whether ASIO has received specific resources to enable it to undertake this task; if not why not.
 - (5) What, if any changes have been made to the security clearance process since 11 September 2001 which impact upon delays to detainee releases and to the resources devoted to the task.
- 653 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Has \$5.6 million been allocated in the 2002-2003 Budget to assist in the reception and administration of those successful asylum seekers processed offshore and subsequently provided temporary protection or humanitarian visas.
 - (2) What precisely is this allocated money for.
 - (3) Who, and how many people, will be brought to Australia from Nauru and Papua New Guinea.
 - (4) Will anyone who was on the MV *Tampa* be brought to Australia.
 - (5) What sum has been made available for the Regional Cooperation Agreement referred to in the Budget.
- 654 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—What are the industrial relations and human resource arrangements for Australians working on Nauru and Manus Island employed by UNHCR, IOM or any of the companies separately contracted to provide security, cleaning or catering services.
- 656 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many Refugee Review Tribunal members and supporting staff were employed assessing appeals for asylum seekers in each year from 1990 to 2001, inclusive.
 - (2) How many appeals were assessed in each year.
 - (3) What was the country of origin of appellants, detailed for each year.
 - (4) On average, how long did each appeal take to be assessed.
 - (5) Can part (4) be broken down by country of origin; if so, what are the details for each year.
- 657 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Does the Migration Act require both the Refugee Review Tribunal and the Migration Review Tribunal to hand down decisions by making such decisions available to his Department and the applicant within two weeks.
 - (2) Are decisions taking longer than two weeks to hand down.
 - (3) What is the average time being taken to hand down decisions.
 - (4) On how many occasions in the last three years have decisions being handed down outside the two week period.
 - (5) What percentage of total decisions have been handed down outside the two week period in the last three years.
 - (6) What is the reason for the delays.
- 658 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many students graduating from the Advanced Diploma of Interpreting and Translating to date have been granted Graduate Skilled Temporary Visas, subclass 497.
 - (2) Is he aware that the Advanced Diploma of Interpreting and Translating gives graduates a professional accreditation as awarded by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters, yet overseas graduates of this course cannot be granted a Graduate Skilled Temporary Visa, subclass 497 as the course has not been undertaken in English.
 - (3) Does an anomaly exist in that the overseas graduates in the Advanced Diploma of Interpreting and Translating, requiring an advanced level of bilingual proficiency to graduate, are unable to be granted a Graduate Skilled Temporary Visa, subclass 497 as the course has not been undertaken in English.

- (4) Will he review the Graduate Skilled Temporary Visa, subclass 497, to enable overseas students graduating from the Advanced Diploma of Interpreting and Translating to apply for this visa category considering it is impossible to produce bilingual professional translators completing courses in English only.
- 659 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has his Department issued a purchase order in the last 12 months to Novartis Animal Health of Pendle Hill, NSW.
- 660 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—Does the Australian Protective Service (APS) undertake security at the ministerial entrance to Parliament House; if so, are there plans to bring in another, cheaper provider to replace the APS.
- 662 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is the Research Involving Embryos and Prohibition of Human Cloning Bill 2002 ostensibly a Health Portfolio matter; if not, why not; if so, why was it not introduced by the Minister for Health.
 - (2) Is it his understanding that both the Government and Opposition parties in the House of Representatives and in the Senate have agreed that this bill be determined by a conscience vote; if so, what is his definition of a conscience vote.
 - (3) Is he aware that on Sunday, 11 August 2002, there was a public meeting at the Wesley Theatre, 220 Pitt Street Sydney, attended by in excess of one thousand members of the public; if so, has he been issued a transcript or video/audio tape of the proceedings at that meeting.
 - (4) In light of the overwhelming evidence against the experimentation on human embryos, will he now declare his opposition to this bill and recommend to his parliamentary colleagues and all Members of Parliament in both Houses to do likewise; if not, why not.
 - (5) Does the bill define the term ‘human embryo’; if so, is a human embryo a human being; if not, why not.
 - (6) In introducing the bill, did he state that he could not find a sufficient moral difference between allowing embryos to succumb in this way and destroying them through research that might advance life-saving and life-enhancing therapies.
 - (7) What life-saving and life-enhancing therapies does he refer to with respect to embryonic stem cell research.
 - (8) In light of the overwhelming evidence presented by the various speakers at the Wesley Theatre on 11 August 2002, are the real gains in medical science in the discovery of the life-saving and life-enhancing therapies to be found in adult stem cell research; if not, why not.
 - (9) Is he able to say which medical, chemical and other corporations have an interest in this bill; if so, who are those corporations and what are their interests.
 - (10) Which sectors of the Australian and international economy will benefit financially from the introduction of this bill.
 - (11) Has adult stem cell research demonstrated substantial medical advancements in the treatment of (a) regeneration of tissue from heart attack sufferers, (b) paraplegia from damaged spinal chords, (c) sickle cell anaemia, (d) insulin dependant diabetics, (e) regeneration of immunity systems, (f) eye damage and (g) brain cell re-implantation in the partial treatment of symptoms of Parkinson’s disease.
- 663 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What are the details of the times, dates and reasons that the 80 air traffic movements an hour cap has been breached at Sydney Airport since the introduction of the cap.
 - (2) What action has been taken with regard to these breaches.
 - (3) Can he guarantee that there will be no further breaches of the cap; if not, why not.
- 664 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How many breaches of the Sydney Airport curfew have occurred since 1 October 1998.
 - (2) What are the times and dates of breaches since 1 October 1998.
 - (3) What is the name of the airline company and type of aircraft responsible for each breach since 1 October 1998.
 - (4) Have any fines associated with these breaches been visited on the airline companies; if so, what are the full details, including the names of the airline companies and the time and date of each breach incurring a fine; if not, why not.

- (5) Will he ensure that all airline companies are fined where a breach of the Sydney Airport curfew occurs which is due to the fault of the airline company; if not, why not.

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

- (1) In light of the recent US Government alerts issued through its Federal Aviation Administration to aircraft owners concerning possible terrorist attacks, have any similar alerts been issued in Australia in relation to security at our general aviation airports; if not, why not.
- (2) Has security been upgraded at (a) Bankstown airport and (b) other general aviation airports in Australia; if so, what action has been taken; if not, why not.

666 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 438 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4943), will he provide details of the statistics referred to in the question.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 401 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4914) in which he stated that the effects of the Long Term Operating Plan at Sydney Airport (LTOP) has been to significantly spread noise impacts with a consequent reduction in the overall numbers of properties within the noise contours that form the basis for eligibility for insulation under the Noise Amelioration Programme, what is his justification for that statement.
- (2) Will he provide data on the number of noise affected households eligible for the Noise Amelioration Programme (a) prior to and (b) after, the introduction of the LTOP.
- (3) How can an increase in the spread of aircraft noise over a larger area of the Sydney Basin lead to a decrease in the number of properties eligible to participate in the Noise Amelioration Programme.
- (4) What standard is used to measure noise in the mapping of noise contours to determine eligibility of a property to participate in the Noise Amelioration Programme.
- (5) What is the scientific basis for the selection of the chosen standard and what are the merits of selecting that standard over the alternative noise measurement standards available.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to part (3) of question No. 402 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4915), has Bankstown Airport now been sold; if so when and to whom; if not, who is the current owner of Bankstown Airport.
- (2) If Bankstown Airport has been sold, what is now the date prescribed in the Airports Act 1996 Guidelines upon which the owner of Bankstown Airport is required to draft and table its Master Plan.
- (3) To whom is the Master Plan to be furnished a copy.
- (4) Is the Master Plan a public document; if not, why not.
- (5) Further to the answers to parts (4) and (5) of question No. 402, were the number of aircraft movements a material factor in the sale of (a) Bankstown Airport and (b) Sydney Airport; if so, what commercial, environmental and safety issues does he understand to be relevant factors when considering the sale of Sydney Airport and Bankstown Airport.
- (6) In light of his answers to parts (4) and (5) of question No. 402, can he explain upon what basis Sydney Airport was sold when, citing his answer to part (3) of question No. 402, the projected figures are not available.
- (7) Was Sydney Airport sold without the availability of the data described in part (3) of question No. 402.
- (8) Is he able to say what financial, environmental and safety impacts the forecast aircraft traffic increase on Bankstown Airport will have flowing from the decision to sell Sydney Airport.

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

- (1) Is it fact that prior to 1 July 2001, most individual or business taxpayers could claim a full tax deduction for most items of equipment up to the value of \$300 so long as those items were relevant to a taxpayer's income-producing activities.
- (2) Is it fact that, under the Uniform Capital Allowances (UCA) system which came into effect on 1 July 2001, an item up to the value of \$300 can no longer be claimed as a full tax deduction in the year of purchase by businesses which have turnover greater than \$1M per annum; if so, (a) why and (b) how does the Howard Government see this as a positive step forward in tax reform.
- (3) Is it also a fact that, under the UCA system, for a business having turnover greater than \$1M per annum, an item of equipment costing as little as \$10 now has to be placed in a pool in the taxpayer's

records and undergo a depreciation process, the end result of which is that that \$10 item of equipment gets depreciated over a number of years; if so, how does the Howard Government see this as a positive step forward in tax reform.

- 670 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Has the number of taxpayers who have overdue debts with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) increased since the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax and the Pay As You Go tax system; if so, can he provide comparative details, including the percentage increases, in relation to (a) the number of taxpayers with an overdue debt with the ATO as at 1 July (i) 2000, (ii) 2001 and (iii) 2002 and (b) the total amount of overdue debt as at 1 July (i) 2000, (ii) 2001 and (iii) 2002.
- 671 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 393 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4912), are Australia's airports strategic military assets; if not, why not.
- 672 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Further to the answers to parts (2), (6) and (7) to question No. 394 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4912) provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration, will he answer those parts to question 394 left unanswered by that Minister.
 - (2) Will he provide details of the advice, if any, he gave to the Minister for Finance and Administration prior to the sale of the assets.
- 673 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Further to paragraph 1 of the reply to part (2) of question No. 574 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5083) and paragraph 1 of the reply to part (5) of question No. 448 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4950), why would the removal, separately, of Australia's foreign media ownership laws not encourage competition and ensure that diversity of opinion and information was maintained.
 - (2) Further to paragraph 2 of the reply to part (2) of question No. 574, paragraph 1 of the reply to part (5) of question No. 448, part (2) of the reply to question No. 566 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5082), paragraph 1 of the reply to parts (2) to (5) of question No. 447 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4948) and part (8) of the reply to question No. 446 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4948), can the Minister demonstrate that the removal, separately, of Australia's foreign media ownership laws will limit the Australian media sector to an outdated structure; if so, how.
 - (3) Further to paragraph 2 of the reply to part (2) of question No. 574, paragraph 1 of the reply to part (5) of question No. 448, part (2) of the reply to question No. 566, paragraph 1 of the reply to parts (2) to (5) of question No. 447 and part (8) of the reply to question No. 446, how would the removal, separately, of Australia's foreign media ownership laws limit (a) capacity for new media owners to enter Australia's media market and (b) improved competition to Australia's existing media proprietors who own and control newspapers, magazines, television stations and radio station stations in Australia.
 - (4) Further to paragraph 2 of the reply to part (2) of question No. 574, paragraph 1 of the reply to part (5) of question No. 448, part (2) of the reply to question No. 566, paragraph 1 of the reply to parts (2) to (5) of question No. 447 and part (8) of the reply to question No. 446, why would potential new media owners, currently restricted by Australia's foreign media ownership laws, not have the ability to respond to a rapidly evolving and converging international media environment, were Australia's foreign media ownership laws, separately, removed.
 - (5) Further to paragraph 3 of the reply to part (2) of question No. 574 and paragraph 1 of the reply to part (5) of question No. 448, why is it necessary to remove Australia's foreign media ownership laws and, at the same time, make changes to Australia's cross-media ownership laws to achieve increased competition in Australia's media market.
 - (6) Further to paragraph 3 of the reply to part (2) of question No. 574 and paragraph 1 of the reply to part (5) of question No. 448, would not the removal of Australia's foreign media ownership laws, alone, provide increased competition to the media proprietors presently operating in Australia's media market; if not, why not.
- 674 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 566 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5082), part (1) of the reply to question No. 448 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4950), paragraph 1 of the reply to parts (2) to (5) of question No. 447 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4948) and part (8) of the reply to question No. 446 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4948), did the Government spell out to the people of Australia before the last Federal election that, in committing to reform Australia's media ownership laws, the Howard Government would introduce legislation into Parliament which would allow a

media proprietor to own and control newspapers, magazines, television stations and radio stations in the one licence area; if so, when and where; if not, why not.

675 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Further to the reply to part (1) of question No. 448 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4950), paragraph 1 of the reply to parts (2) to (5) of question No. 447 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4948) and part (8) of the reply to question No. 446 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4948), did the Government, or the Coalition, clearly state in election policy documents published before the last Federal election that the Government's proposed reform of Australia's media ownership laws envisaged that a media proprietor would be permitted to own and control newspapers, magazines, television stations and radio stations in the one licence area; if so, where.

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

- (1) Further to the reply to part 7 of question No. 447 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4948), what are the other major influences on national identity and culture.
- (2) Are any of these influences more significant than media organisations' capacity to influence our national identity and culture; if so, what are they.
- (3) Are there any influences more significant than media organisations' capacity to influence public opinion and the way Australian citizens vote in federal elections; if so, what are they.

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

- (1) Do the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the Telecommunications Code of Practice 1997 currently allow mobile telephone low impact facilities to be installed without the need for (a) a Local Council Development Application and (b) written notification from the communications carrier to local residents and businesses potentially affected by such installations, with the exception of the owner and occupier of the property where such facilities are installed.
- (2) Under the code, is the level of electromagnetic radiation emissions not a valid ground for an objection to the location of a mobile telephone low impact facility even when a person may believe that the proposed location would result in harmful exposure to such radiation; if so, why.
- (3) Is a new code being developed for mobile telephone low impact facilities; if so, when will it come into force; if not, why not.
- (4) Will any new code require telecommunications carriers to consult more fully with local councils and the community, even when a development application is not required for a low impact facility; if so, how; if not, why not.
- (5) Will any new code require telecommunications carriers to notify all potentially-affected residents and businesses of a proposed installation of a mobile telephone low impact facility and allow them an opportunity to object to such an installation on health or environmental grounds; if so, how; if not, why not.

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

- (1) Further to his reply to parts (2) and (5) of question No. 403 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4915), can he indicate or give examples of how the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) might become aware of a change in the circumstances of the state of health of the former Senator, Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston, which might lead to the DPP reviewing the capacity of Dr Colston to stand trial on the twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts; if not, why not.
- (2) Further to his reply to part (6) of question No. 403 and part (2) of question No. 555 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5076), what would need to happen for the DPP to deem it necessary to review the case of Dr Colston.
- (3) When was the last time the DPP received a medical report concerning the state of health of Dr Colston.
- (4) What did that report indicate in terms of the state of health of Dr Colston.

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

- (1) Further to the answers to parts (2), (6) and (7) to question No. 394 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4912), did the Minister consult with the Minister for Defence prior to the sale of all shares in Australian Defence Industries (ADI) to Transfield Thompson-CSF Investments Pty Limited with respect to those matters raised in those parts; if so, (a) when and (b) what was the advice of the Minister of Defence prior to the sale of the former share assets in ADI; if not, why not.

- (2) Further to the answer to part (4) of question No. 394, is he able to say who (a) are the top ten shareholders and (b) has a controlling interest, being a person holding fifteen percent or more shares, in (i) Transfield Thompson-CSF Investments Pty Limited, (ii) Transfield Holdings Pty Limited and (iii) Thompson-CSF group known as 'Thales'.
- 680 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—Further to the answer to part (2) of question No. 531 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5066), will the Government now abandon its proposal to increase the cost of prescriptions; if not, why not.
- 681 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Further to paragraph 1 of the answer to part (3) of question No. 495 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4982), when will the Government's review be concluded.
 - (2) Will a report of the review be made available to the public; if not, why not.
 - (3) Further to paragraph 2 of the answer to part (3) of question 495, how does the Government propose to promote public debate and discussions to inform future policy, particularly as they relate to Australia's falling fertility rates.
- 682 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) How many medical specialists withdrew from the Repatriation Private Patient Scheme (RPPS) in (a) 1998, (b) 1999, (c) 2000 and (d) 2001.
 - (2) How many medical specialists have withdrawn from the RPPS so far in 2002.
 - (3) What are the reasons for the withdrawal by the medical specialists from the RPPS.
 - (4) What is the Government doing to encourage full participation of medical specialists in the RPPS.
- 683 **MR WINDSOR:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has he received correspondence and supporting documents from me concerning allegations made by Mr Dennis Brown JP that a Justice of the Family Court and Mr Peter Johnson interfered with a judgement of the Supreme Court of Queensland; if so, will he investigate the allegations.
 - (2) Will he obtain a transcript of the Supreme Court proceedings.
 - (3) Will he consider referring the matter to the Australian Federal Police for investigation when the transcript is obtained.
- 684 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Who will be attending the Microcredit Summit +5 to be held in New York in 2002 on behalf of the Australian Government.
 - (2) Will he attend the Summit.
 - (3) What sum was committed to microcredit in the foreign aid budgets for (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001, (c) 2001-2002, (d) 2002-2003 and (e) 2003-2004.
- 685 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answers to questions No. 2259 (*Hansard*, 23 May 2001, page 26950) and No. 327 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4978) concerning the cost of wines and liquor for Kirribilli House and The Lodge, since Mr. Peter Bourne was appointed as a wine consultant (a) on what dates were purchases of liquor made for Kirribilli House and The Lodge and (b) what sum was spent on each occasion.
- 686 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to objectives 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 5.1, 5.4 and 6.4 of Australia Cycling: The National Strategy and the attribution of responsibility to the Commonwealth Government for their implementation.
 - (2) To what extent has development occurred on policies, planning procedures, regulations and initiatives at a Commonwealth level to achieve this strategy aim.
 - (3) To what extent has development occurred on the creation of an integrated cycling network, within and between communities, and the development of a national standard for such a cycling network.
 - (4) How many new and renovated public and private developments, including end-of-trip facilities for cyclists, have been undertaken since the commencement of the National Strategy and where are they located.
 - (5) On which buildings, transport nodes and public places have end-of-trip facilities for cyclists been fitted.
 - (6) Has development occurred on a national public communication strategy to improve the awareness of all (a) road users on how they can better share roads and (b) path users on how they can better share

paths; if so, (i) what is the extent of the development, (ii) has the strategy been implemented and (iii) what measures prove community awareness of the strategy.

- (7) Are cycling aspects taken into consideration during road safety audits and blackspot identification; if so, (a) what cycling factors are considered, (b) who is responsible for considering these factors and (c) where is this consideration documented.
- (8) Has development occurred on road users' behavioural programs or initiatives to improve cyclist safety; if so, (a) what is the extent of the development, (b) how is it being implemented and (c) what measures are there to indicate success.
- (9) Has development occurred on a national marketing strategy to promote cycling and its benefits; if so, (a) what is the extent of the development, (b) at what cost to the Commonwealth and (c) what measures are there to indicate success.
- (10) Has data been collected and or research commissioned by the Commonwealth providing information to assist decisions made about cycling issues; if so (a) what does the data or research reveal, (b) where can the information be accessed and (c) what cost has been incurred by the Commonwealth in this data collection and research.
- (11) What community education programs have been implemented aimed at encouraging adults to cycle and what has been the cost to the Commonwealth of the programs.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 105 (*Hansard*, 24 June 2002, page 3599), what financial contribution has the Australian Bicycle Council (ABC) and the Commonwealth provided to the Cycling Promotion Fund and in what form is the support.
- (2) In which ways is the ABC supporting the Bicycling Trade Show and does this involve financial support.

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

- (1) Further to the report under section 24 of the *Air Passenger Ticket Levy (Collection) Act 2001*, is \$350 million estimated to be the cost of employee entitlements under the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett group employees (SEESA); if not, what is the estimated full amount.
- (2) What are the remaining entitlements owing to Ansett workers, not including payments made or expected under SEESA.
- (3) Will the Government cease collecting the \$10 levy on air passenger tickets once the cost of employee entitlements payable under SEESA has been recovered; if not, why not.
- (4) If funds collected from the levy exceed Government liabilities for employee entitlements, for what does the Government intend using those excess funds.
- (5) Within the Ansett group, to which companies have employee entitlements been paid and how many employees with each Ansett group company have received payments.
- (1) How many cents in the dollar is it expected that Ansett group creditors will receive from the Ansett Administrators.
- (2) Will the Government seek to recover from the air passenger ticket levy, costs incurred by the Departments of Employment and Workplace Relations and Transport and Regional Services in the establishment of SEESA or the administration and collection of the ticket levy.
- (3) What (a) are the costs to date and (b) is the total estimated final cost of the costs incurred by the Departments referred to in part (7).
- (4) Have discussions been held with the Administrators about recovering from them the cost of employee entitlements paid by the Government through SEESA to Ansett group employees; if so, when were those discussions held and what was determined through those discussions; if not, why not.

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

- (1) In relation to the Sustainable Regions Program (SRP), who are the members of the committees for all eight sustainable regions and when were they appointed.
- (2) What criteria were used to select the committee members.
- (3) What selection process was undertaken in choosing the committee members.
- (4) What skills, attributes and experience does each individual committee member bring to these positions.
- (5) What rules apply to the operations of each committee including (a) how projects are identified, (b) how projects are chosen for funding, (c) how projects are announced, (d) how projects are monitored,

(e) how projects are evaluated, (f) how the success of a project will be measured, (g) what protocols apply to committee meetings, (h) how many members of each committee must be in attendance at meetings involving funding allocation decisions and (i) what protocols are in place for replacement of committee members.

- (6) When will selection of projects for funding in 2002-2003 be undertaken in each of the eight regions.
- (7) When will projects for 2002-2003 be announced.
- (8) Will he provide a copy of the standard contract for these projects.
- (9) What organisations are eligible to apply for SRP funding.

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

- (1) Of all Roads to Recovery funding granted over the life of the program, how many applications specifically identified bicycle tracks and bicycle provisions as part of the planned upgrade to local roads.
- (2) Which local councils were granted funding for such upgrades.
- (3) What improvements did these local councils identify to be carried out with the funding.
- (4) Are funding applications that include planned improvements for bicycle tracks and bicycle provisions assessed differently from those without bicycle provisions; if so, why.

691 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What was the total cost of conducting the Fuel Taxation Inquiry that was chaired by David Trebeck and is he able to provide a breakdown of that expenditure into such things as wages and administration costs.
- (2) How many people were employed on the project, and of these, how many were Commonwealth employees.
- (3) What was the nature of the employment of other contributors.
- (4) How many Commonwealth Departments provided submissions to the inquiry, and what was the cost of preparing each of those submissions.
- (5) Did any other Commonwealth Department incur other costs in relation to the inquiry; if so, which Department and what cost was incurred.
- (6) Can he outline the decision making process following the finalisation of the Fuel Taxation Inquiry Report (FTIR) in March 2002.
- (7) Which Ministers, ministerial staff and Departments received a copy of the report before it was released publicly.
- (8) Was an inter-departmental committee established to consider the recommendations; if so, which Departments were involved; if not, why not.
- (9) Did Cabinet consider the report's recommendations or receive a briefing about the report before it was released publicly; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (10) Which Ministers were involved in making the decision announced by the Government in response to the FTIR.
- (11) Did he consult with any individual or organisation when making a decision in response to the FTIR; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- (12) What is the Government's position on each of the recommendations in the FTIR and why.
- (13) Is the current structure and level of fuel taxation adequate and appropriate for Australia's national interest; if not, why not.
- (14) Which Departments are responsible for the development of the energy grants credit scheme that will replace the Diesel and Alternative Fuel Grant Scheme and the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme.
- (15) What work has been done on the design of the energy grants credit scheme to date, when is a draft proposal due for consultation and what will that consultation process be.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 348 (*Hansard*, 27 June 2002, page 3939) concerning ship jumpers, who met the cost of detention and removal of the 18 crew members who deserted their vessels in 2000-2001.
- (2) Were there incidents of people jumping ships in 2001-2002; if so, (a) how many people did so, (b) what was the cost of detention and removal of these people, (c) how many of these people lodged

immigration applications and (d) what was the (i) nature, (ii) outcome and (iii) country of origin of each applicant.

- (3) How many ship jumpers have been granted protection visas each year from 1996-97 and from July 2000 to May 2001, and of these, are there still some in progress and not finalised.
- (4) For each of the last 10 financial years, (a) how many ship jumpers were there and (b) what payments under the Migration Act were made by shipping companies for the cost of detention and removal of each ship jumper.
- (5) Is there a requirement under the Customs Act to notify his Department of all ship entries and the number of crew on each ship; if not, what action has his Department taken to change this in light of the terrorism acts of 11 September 2001 and the need to protect Australia's borders.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 346 (*Hansard*, 3 June 2002, page 2723) concerning the Migration Agents Regulation Authority (MARA), what are the names of the migration agents cautioned and suspended for involvement in migration cases that had no prospects of success.
- (2) Since MARA's inception in March 1998, what are the names of the 20 migration agents who have deregistered themselves or allowed their registration to lapse while complaints against their conduct were being investigated and how many complaints were made against each of the agents.
- (3) Did any migration agents who de-registered seek to be re-registered; if so, (a) how many and (b) were any outstanding professional standard matters re-activated against such agents.

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

- (1) What are the time lines set up by his Department for the processing of passenger movement cards electronically and was the system due to be ready by the 2000 Olympics.
- (2) What was the original Budget allocation for setting up the system and if the project is two years behind schedule, to what sum over Budget has the project blown out.
- (3) Have any airlines produced their own versions of the cards due to the delay; if so, how has this impacted on providing a streamlined system.
- (4) Has this lack of data impacted on the capacity of airlines to plan for future markets.
- (5) Will the information still be relevant given the backlog of information.
- (6) Has his Department contracted another organisation to carry out the work; if so what is the contractor's experience in this area.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to part (2) of question No. 526 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5064), why are shipping companies not required to pay infringement notices each time they bring a stowaway into the country.
- (2) Why is no cost recovery required of shipping companies for unlawful non-citizens in detention who come into the country as stowaways.
- (3) Are airlines who bring in unauthorised or undocumented arrivals prosecuted with an infringement of \$5,000 as well as detention costs associated with the time of processing protection applications.
- (4) Who covers the cost of detention while these stowaways are in the country awaiting a decision.
- (5) What is the reason for the discrepancies between the infringements by airlines and shipping companies.
- (6) Are crew entering the country on foreign ships covered by special purpose visas.
- (7) Is it still the case under the regulation that the visa also provides that the ship will depart Australia to a place outside Australia during the course of the voyage; if so, how is this regulation monitored and enforced by his Department or the Australian Customs Service (ACS) at each port.
- (8) Does his Department and ACS keep data regarding the entry and exit requirement of ships to ensure no breaches occur; if not, why has this not been considered.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 117 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2002, page 2040) concerning Migrant Resource Centres, what client statistics exist to show how many clients of each service have been assisted by each Migrant Resource Centre (MRC) and what funding did each centre received during the period for which the statistics are available.
- (2) When was the Department Statistical Clients Information system for recording clients established.

- (3) When were MRCs and Migrant Service Agencies (MSAs) expected to use such facilities.
 - (4) Which MRCs and MSAs failed to meet the commencement date for recording client statistics and what was the reason for the failure.
- 698 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is it correct that the Air Traffic Control (ATC) at Essendon Airport is closed between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., and that Melbourne ATC is responsible for Essendon air traffic control during this time.
 - (2) When, and why, was the decision taken to close Essendon Airport ATC between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.
 - (3) Do pilots landing at, or taking off from, Essendon Airport between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. have to seek clearance from Melbourne Airport ATC; if so, what sort of communication takes place between pilots and ATC during landings and takeoffs at that time.
 - (4) Are there any differences between the procedures to be followed by pilots using Essendon Airport when the Essendon ATC is, and is not, operating.
- 699 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Why did the Government take over 10 months to respond to the report into the safety of shipping on the Great Barrier Reef.
- 700 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) How many reports have been made to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) since 1 January 1999 about company records involving allegedly fraudulent changes of company directorship and principal office details.
 - (2) What steps have been taken by ASIC since 1999 to deal with fraudulent alterations to company records.
 - (3) How many people have been charged by ASIC, or on behalf of ASIC, for fraudulent activity in relation to company records.
 - (4) Has ASIC sought additional powers or resources from the Government to deal with the problem of fraudulent company record alteration.
- 701 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Further to the Government's announced sale of Point Cook Airfield, (a) is the Government intending to offer the property for sale as freehold or leasehold and (b) what have been the considerations given to the alternative forms of sale.
 - (2) What is the anticipated sale price.
 - (3) When does the Government anticipate the property will formally be offered for sale.
 - (4) What national or international environmental classifications are associated directly or indirectly with the Point Cook site.
 - (5) What specific environmental audit or audits of the site have been commissioned by or on behalf of the Defence Estates Organisation.
 - (6) Has the Government discussed the environmental condition of the site with the Victorian Environment Protection Authority.
 - (7) How does the Government intend to deal with any potential findings of environmental contamination of the site ahead of the sale being finalised.
 - (8) What is the current value of the RAAF Museum collection at Point Cook.
 - (9) What annual funding has been allocated by the Government or the RAAF to the RAAF Point Cook Museum in each year between 1990 and 2001.
 - (10) How does the Government intend for the RAAF Museum to continue operations within a privately owned site, and what funding will the Government, either through the RAAF or other sources, deliver recurrently to the RAAF Museum.
 - (11) Has the Government had any discussions with Victorian Government museum representatives about the relationship that might be developed between the RAAF Point Cook Museum and other museums in Victoria.
 - (12) What provision is being made for the upgrading of electricity, sewerage and road services to the Point Cook site ahead of its sale.
 - (13) How many RAAF personnel were housed on the Point Cook site at 1 August 2002, and how many of the children of the RAAF personnel attend the Point Cook Primary School.
 - (14) When does the Government envisage RAAF personnel will depart the Point Cook site.
 - (15) What are the current air traffic control arrangements at Point Cook.

- (16) What are the minimum air traffic control arrangements that the Government will require for any private owner to maintain.
- (17) What provision will be made for changes in minimum air traffic control arrangements at Point Cook if, after the date of sale, recommendations are made for increased control services out of the late-July 2002 collision and fatality at Moorabbin airport.

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

- (1) What specific improvements in Telstra services have been achieved in the Albury Wodonga region since April 2002, and what is the specific methodology used to demonstrate any improvement.
- (2) What specific improvements in Telstra services have been achieved in the Gippsland South region over the past 12 months, and what is the methodology for demonstrating any improvement.
- (3) What specific improvements in Telstra services have been achieved in the (a) eastern and (b) northern suburbs of Melbourne since 1 January 2002, and what is the methodology for demonstrating any improvement.

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

- (1) Does the Bureau of Meteorology keep records that compare its forecast temperatures and conditions with the actual temperatures and conditions; if so, on a yearly basis, what is its accuracy in each State capital.
- (2) Has the accuracy improved; if so, why.
- (3) Are there parts of Australia where that accuracy is worse than others.
- (4) What has been the budget allocation for the Bureau of Meteorology in each year since 1995.

704 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Will he make public the report into the grounding of the *Doric Chariot* on the Great Barrier Reef.

705 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) What are the origins of the Government's Quality Assurance System for the disability sector which was recently enshrined into legislation.
- (2) How many disability support agencies will be affected by the new Quality Assurance System.
- (3) Will some agencies be unable to operate as a result of the new Quality Assurance System; if so, how many agencies will be affected.
- (4) What was the cost to the Government of conducting the KPMG Business Services review—A Viable Future.

706 **MR MCMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Are the fields and professions of science, chemistry or academia eligible for consideration for permanent residency status under the Distinguished Talent Category; if not, why not.
- (2) What other occupations are eligible to be considered under the Distinguished Talent Category.
- (3) How many applications have been lodged under the Distinguished Talent Category in the past 12 months and what were the occupations of the applicants.
- (4) How many of these applications were successful and what were the occupations.
- (5) If no applications were received in the past 12 months, when was the most recent successful application made under the Distinguished Talent Category and under what occupation was it considered.

MS BURKE: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 707 - 723)—

- (1) Are there any programs administered by the Minister's Department that provide, or have provided, funding to local government authorities in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001 and (f) 2001-2002.
- (2) If so, for each program for each of the years that funding was granted to local government authorities, (a) what was the level of funding provided to each local government authority, (b) what was the purpose for which the grant was made and (c) in which federal electoral division or divisions does this local government authority fall.
- (3) Have any concerns been raised with the Minister's office or the Minister's Department from (a) local government authorities or (b) other organisations regarding cost shifting onto local government in regard to any programs administered by the Minister's Department; if so, (a) to what program or

programs did the concern relate and (b) were any investigations undertaken by the Minister's Department in relation to these concerns; if not, why not; if so, what were the findings of these investigations.

707 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Prime Minister.

708 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

709 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Treasurer.

710 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

711 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

712 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

713 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

714 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

715 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

716 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

717 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Attorney-General.

718 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

719 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

720 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

721 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

722 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.

723 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

MS BURKE: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 724 - 731)—

- (1) Does the Minister's Department administer any programs relating to illicit drug use.
- (2) If so, what has been the level of expenditure on these programs in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001 and (f) 2001-2002.
- (3) In relation to programs which have allowed organisations to apply for funding for the delivery of services or programs, (a) what is the name of each program and (b) what was the level of expenditure in each State in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001 and (f) 2001-2002 on each program.
- (4) In relation to funding under these programs, (a) how many applications were received from within the electoral divisions of (i) Chisholm, (ii) Aston, (iii) Deakin, (iv) Latrobe and (v) Casey, (b) what is the name of each organisation that submitted an application, (c) what was the purpose of the funding being sought in each case, (d) what was the value of funding sought in each case and (e) if the application was successful, (i) what level of funding was granted and (ii) in which federal electoral division is the organisation located.
- (5) In relation to programs that do not provide for organisations to apply for funding, what was the level of expenditure for each program in the electoral divisions of (a) Chisholm, (b) Aston, (c) Deakin, (d) Latrobe and (e) Casey in (i) 1996-97, (ii) 1997-98, (iii) 1998-99, (iv) 1999-2000, (v) 2000-2001 and (vi) 2001-2002.

724 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Prime Minister.

725 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

727 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

728 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Attorney-General.

729 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

730 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

731 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.

MS BURKE: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 733 - 762)—

- (1) Does the Minister administer any Commonwealth funded programs for which community organisations or businesses can apply for funding.
- (2) If so, what are these programs.

- (3) Does the Minister's Department advertise these funding opportunities.
- (4) In the electoral divisions of (a) Chisholm, (b) Aston, (c) Deakin, (d) Latrobe and (e) Casey in (i) 1996-97, (ii) 1997-98, (iii) 1998-99, (iv) 1999-2000, (v) 2000-2001 and (vi) 2001-2002, for each of the programs listed in part (2), (A) what was the name and postal address of each organisation that sought funding from the Commonwealth, (B) what was the purpose of the funding sought in each case and (C) for successful applications, what was the level of funding provided.

733 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Prime Minister.

734 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

735 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Treasurer.

736 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

737 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

738 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

739 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

740 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

741 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

742 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

743 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Attorney-General.

744 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

745 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

746 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

747 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

748 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.

749 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

750 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

751 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Forestry and Conservation.

752 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport.

753 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism.

754 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Science.

755 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government.

756 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.

757 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services.

758 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

759 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

760 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

761 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Ageing.

762 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.

763 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister able to say whether Taiwan was allowed or not to participate in the 55th annual World Health Assembly (WHA) held in Geneva, Switzerland in May 2002.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the US, Japan and the European Parliament publicly expressed concerns at the WHA that Taiwan was not able to participate at the WHA as a separate sovereign entity.
- (3) Does the Australian Government share this view; if so, what measures did it take to ensure that this view was expressed at the WHA.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of President Bush's recent signing of a new law that commits the US to support actively Taiwan's participation at the WHA; if so, is similar action planned by the Australian Government.

- (5) Is the Minister aware of a 1998 outbreak in Taiwan of hand, foot and mouth disease, which affected as many as 300,000 Taiwanese children, of which 80 died.
- (6) Would Taiwan's admittance to the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a separate sovereign entity from China see greater action and faster response time from the WHO in such circumstances.
- (7) Could these 80 deaths have been avoided.
- 764 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Has any embryonic stem cell research been carried out in Australia prior to the Research Involving Embryos and Prohibition of Human Cloning Bill 2002 being passed.
- (2) Has any funding been granted for the establishment of a centre for the purpose of carrying out research on embryonic stem cells; if so, what sum has been granted.
- 765 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he aware that all the great apes, the gorilla, bonobo, chimpanzee and orang-utan are on the verge of extinction.
- (2) Is he aware that 15,000, or nearly 80%, of the eastern lowland gorillas in the Democratic Republic of Congo have been killed and eaten by coltan miners.
- (3) Is he aware that hundreds of trees are being removed illegally from Tanjung Putting National Park in Kalimantan, Borneo, thus destroying the orang-utans' only home.
- (4) Is he aware that in 2001 the UN declared the extinction clock was at one minute to midnight for all the apes and set up a task force to try and raise awareness and funds to try and prevent the extinction of the apes.
- (5) Is he also aware that the UK has already pledged support to the UN task force.
- (6) Will the Australian Government follow the lead of the UK and take action to help these animals.
- 766 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) been recognised for its efforts to assist staff to balance the demands of work and family life.
- (2) What was the nature of the award and what policies and practices have been implemented by the AGS which led to the award.
- 767 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Which Reserve units, companies, battalions or brigades have been designated High Readiness.
- (2) How many Reservists have been designated High Readiness Reserve and Active Reserve.
- (3) How many Reservists have been designated High Readiness Reserve without being in a High Readiness Unit.
- (4) Will such High Readiness Reserves be utilised as slots in the Regular Army or in formed Reserve units; if so, what are the criteria for their utilisation.
- 768 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—What is the period of the notice to move for a High Readiness Reserve and how is that different for a similar Active Reserve (a) individual, (b) unit, (c) company, (d) battalion or (e) brigade.
- 769 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What is the training requirement for a High Readiness Reserve and how is that different for a similar Active Reserve (a) individual, (b) unit, (c) company, (d) battalion or (e) brigade.
- (2) What is the extra dollar investment in training for a High Readiness Reserve (a) individual, (b) unit, (c) company, (d) battalion or (e) brigade.
- 770 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Has it been estimated that it costs \$4.2 billion to fully equip the Army.
- (2) What is the estimated cost to fully equip the (a) High Readiness Reserve (i) individual, (ii) unit, (iii) company, (iv) battalion or (v) brigade and the (b) Active Reserve (i) individual, (ii) unit, (iii) company, (iv) battalion or (v) brigade.
- (3) What additional equipment is being provided for High Readiness Reserves and (a) what is its cost and (b) which units will get what equipment and at what cost.
- 771 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many potential High Readiness and Active Reservists are expected to be recruited in (a) 2002 and (b) 2003.

- (2) What is the estimated cost per reserve recruit in (a) 2002 and (b) 2003 for (i) advertising and (ii) training.
- 772 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Is there a mechanism for designating High Readiness Reserves or is it done voluntarily; if so, what are the details.
- (2) What was the mechanism and or criteria for determining which units would be High Readiness Reserve and Active Reserve.
- 773 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—What is the proportion of regular army personnel for High Readiness Reserve and Active Reserve (a) units, (b) companies, (c) battalions or (d) brigades.
- 774 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Does Army have a plan to close Reserve depots; if so, (a) what is it called and (b) is it publicly available.
- (2) For each calendar year from 1996 to date, (a) which Reserve depots have closed, (b) where were they located, (c) when did they close and (d) were any sold; if so, for what sum.
- (3) Are further Reserve depots closures expected; if so, (a) which Reserve depots, (b) what are their locations and (c) when are they expected to close.
- 775 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—For each year from 1996, have any new Reserve depots been constructed; if so, (a) where, (b) at what cost and (c) when did they open.
- 776 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a letter published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 1 August 2002 from Mr Arthur Sinodinos of his Office, which states that those of his children who live at Kirribilli House and are financially independent pay board to the Commonwealth.
- (2) Which of his children currently live at Kirribilli House.
- (3) What sum is paid per month for their upkeep at Kirribilli House.
- (4) On what basis is the amount paid assessed, and does it include such things as meals, laundry and telephone.
- (5) To which Commonwealth Department is the board paid.
- 777 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to findings of the Australian Council of Social Services that estimate that more than \$200 million was collected in social security penalties in 2001-2002.
- (2) How many fines were issued in 2001-2002 to Centrelink clients in the electoral division of Prospect.
- (3) How many (a) Activity Test breaches and (b) Administrative breaches relating to the (i) Newstart allowance and (ii) Youth allowance were issued in 2001-2002 to Centrelink clients in the electoral division of Prospect.
- (4) What is the total sum of penalties levied in 2001-2002 to Centrelink clients in the electoral division of Prospect relating to the (a) Newstart allowance and (b) Youth allowance.
- (5) How many Centrelink clients in the electoral division of Prospect incurred the penalty of having payments totally withdrawn for 8 weeks.
- 778 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Are Australian Defence Force personnel issued with all uniforms and equipment free of charge when beginning their training.
- (2) If so, can personnel swap worn out, lost or damaged uniforms and equipment on a one for one basis or are they required to pay for all new uniforms and equipment after their initial issue.
- (3) If personnel are forced to pay for their own replacement uniforms and equipment are they able to claim it back on tax; if not, why not.
- (4) Is it the case that the families of (a) Navy personnel deployed on operations overseas are able to send mail for no cost up to 3kg, (b) Army personnel deployed on operations overseas are able to send mail for no cost up to 2kg and (c) Air Force personnel deployed on operations overseas are able to send mail for no cost up to 1kg; if so, (d) why are the weights at which families can send mail different for the different services and (e) what action does the Minister intend to take to remedy these discrepancies.

- 779 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many residential detoxification beds are available in the electoral division of Throsby and where are they located.
 - (2) How many residential detoxification beds are available in the Illawarra area, which hospitals or non-government organisations provide them and where are they located.
 - (3) How many residential rehabilitation beds are available in the electoral division of Throsby.
 - (4) How many residential rehabilitation beds are available in the Illawarra area, which hospitals or non-government organisations provide them and where are they located
 - (5) What facilities exist in the electoral division of Throsby and the wider Illawarra area for the treatment of people suffering from a combined mental illness and drug dependency.
 - (6) Which service providers in the electoral division of Throsby and the wider Illawarra area are offering treatment for people with a drug dependency and what is the nature of their treatment and services.
 - (7) What is the nature of the Commonwealth assistance provided in the electoral division of Throsby and in the wider Illawarra area to assist in the area of prevention and treatment of illicit drug abuse.
- 780 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—
- (1) How many Commonwealth funded places for outside of school hours care, broken down into the three service types of (a) Before School Care, (b) After School Care and (c) Vacation Care, are there in the (i) electoral division of Throsby in total and (ii) post code areas of (A) 2502, (B) 2505, (C) 2506, (D) 2526, (E) 2527, (F) 2528, (G) 2529, (H) 2530 and (I) 2533.
 - (2) Which organisations in the electoral division of Throsby coordinate the provision of these services.
- 781 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What was the sale price of the Defence property known as Chicquita Park, located at Levanto Street, Mentone, Vic., sold in December 2001.
 - (2) On what date was (a) the property sold and (b) the sale price agreed upon by the Minister's Department and the purchaser.
 - (3) What conditions, if any, applied to the sale.
 - (4) How many tenderers submitted a bid.
 - (5) Was the price in the tender of the eventual purchaser the highest price of all tenders.
 - (6) By what process did the Minister's Department satisfy itself that the final price agreed with the purchaser was a reasonable price for the property.
 - (7) During negotiations with Kingston Council prior to the sale of Chicquita Park, what estimated value did the Minister's Department place on the property.

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- 783 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many funding applications recommended to the Minister by the relevant State advisory group under the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy have not been signed off by the Minister since February 2002.
 - (2) Will the Minister inquire into the reasons why any recommended grant applications have not been signed off.
 - (3) Will the Minister take urgent steps to ensure this matter is addressed so that community organisations are not left in a position of uncertainty as to whether their grant application has been successful.
- 784 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—How much of the total revenue presently derived from personal income tax would be lost by the Commonwealth were the Government to legislate to allow all married or de facto couples to share, equally, for the purposes of the Australian Taxation Office assessing their liability to pay personal income tax to the Commonwealth, their combined total income.
- 785 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 357 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4892), can fiscal management of debt in Australia be recovered through taxation revenue, rather than reliance on sale of capital assets to service Commonwealth debt; if so, how; if not, why not.
- 786 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—What are the full reasons for the Howard Government refusing to ratify the Kyoto Protocol on greenhouse gas emissions.

787 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) How many industrial relations disputes have been brought by employees of his Department against the employer.
- (2) How many disputes have been brought by employees engaged directly by the Industrial Registrar.
- (3) Of those, how many employees engaged by the Registrar are attached to a President, Deputy President or Commissioner of the Industrial Relations Commission.
- (4) What were the dates of filing for each of those disputes.
- (5) For each of those disputes, was it the subject of mediation, conciliation or arbitration.
- (6) What were the findings or agreements reached in each case.
- (7) In each case, has counselling been provided to either the employee who brought the case or his or her superior.
- (8) What programs exist within his Department and within the Registry to ensure good personnel practices are adhered to by those in authority in his Department or the Registry.

788 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What were the successful applications for Natural Heritage Trust funding projects located entirely or partially within the electoral divisions of (a) Prospect, (b) Chifley, (c) Fowler, (d) Reid, (e) Blaxland, (f) Macarthur, (g) Werriwa, (h) Parramatta, (i) Lindsay, (j) Greenway, (k) Mitchell and (l) Macquarie.
- (2) Do recent figures released by Environment Australia show that since 1996 the electoral division of Prospect has only received \$45,050 in funding while the neighbouring electoral division of Parramatta has received \$575,454; if so, what is the reason for the difference.

789 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the composition of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF).
- (2) Are members of the SACF representatives of organisations; if so, which organisations do they represent; if not; what is the basis of their appointment.
- (3) What are the dates of SACF meetings held between 1996 and 1 August 2002.

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

- (1) How many actions were exercised by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) under Civil Aviation Regulation 269 (CAR 269) in each of the past five years.
- (2) In how many actions was no further action taken.
- (3) How many actions resulted in CASA recommendations to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for further legal action or prosecution action against operators.
- (4) Of those recommendations to the DPP for further legal action or prosecutions, how many were proceeded with, and of these, how many resulted in successful prosecutions, failed prosecutions or were withdrawn.
- (5) How many were appealed and what was the outcome.
- (6) For each prosecution or legal action, what sum was spent by the Commonwealth for each case, and what was the cost to each agency involved.
- (7) For each prosecution or legal action, what sum (a) was recouped from prosecuted operators and (b) did the Commonwealth pay in costs to operators.
- (8) With respect to CASA's power to cancel, suspend or vary aviation operators' certificates under CAR 269, what is the internal CASA process taken to establish the veracity of a planned action before it is proceeded with.
- (9) At what level of management are decisions under CAR 269 determined.
- (10) Is each stage of a planned action recorded; if so, where is the file held and is it subject to Freedom of Information procedures; if not, why not.
- (11) Does the decision making process assess the impact of an action under CAR 269 on the reputation or viability of an operator, or is safety the only consideration.
- (12) If an action is not proceeded with, or is subsequently stopped or withdrawn, does CASA apologise to the operator or issue any public notice advising that the action commenced will not proceed and offer reasons why; if not, why not.

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

- (1) Did he issue a Budget media statement saying that the Federal Government has made a commitment to spend \$18 million on overtaking lanes on the Sturt Highway.
- (2) What sum of the \$18 million has already been spent and on which projects has that sum been spent.
- (3) What sum was spent on the eastbound and westbound lanes near Kingston-on-Murray in 2001-2002.
- (4) What sum will be spent on the remaining 17 passing lanes, when will it be spent and where are the lanes located.
- (5) Following completion of these projects, how much of the Sturt Highway will not have dual carriageway or safe overtaking lanes and what is the cost of completing those works.

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

- (1) What financial contribution is the Federal Government making to the Adelaide to Darwin Railway project.
- (2) When is the Federal contribution being made.
- (3) If the Federal funding is staged (a) what is the proposed schedule of payments, (b) in relation to payments already made, what milestones were used to determine appropriateness for payment and (c) in relation to payments not yet made, what milestones are to be achieved to trigger future payments.
- (4) What projects are being funded by this Federal Government contribution.
- (5) What are the anticipated contributions by (a) the South Australian Government, (b) the Northern Territory Government and (c) each member of the Asia Pacific Transport Consortium to the total project cost.
- (6) What contracts have been let for the project to date.
- (7) To whom have contracts been let to date.
- (8) What is the value of each contract that has been let to date.

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

- (1) What sum was spent on (a) the Countrylink call centre operation, (b) the production and distribution of the Rural Book, including costs incurred by other Commonwealth Government agencies, (c) maintenance of the Countrylink information database and (d) 350 community information stands in (i) 2001-2002 and (ii) 2002-2003.
- (2) For 2002-2003, what sum has been budgeted for (a) the Commonwealth Regional Information Service call centre operation, (b) the production and distribution of the Rural Book, including costs incurred by other Commonwealth Government agencies, (c) maintenance of the regional entry point Internet portal, (d) community information stands, (e) the printing and distribution of the Commonwealth Regional Information Directory, (f) the travelling shopfront for regional shows and field days and (g) the print and electronic media advertising campaign to support the service.
- (3) Who is contracted to provide the advertising campaign.
- (4) What selection process was undertaken to determine who would provide the advertising campaign.
- (5) How many organisations submitted a tender for this campaign.

795 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What are the terms and conditions of the recent appointment of the Hon. Rob Knowles as Chair of the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Board, including salary, travel arrangements and allowances.
- (2) Is the Minister able to say whether Mr Knowles is in receipt of a parliamentary pension from his time in the Victorian Government; if so, was this taken into account when determining the terms and conditions of his appointment to the position.
- (3) Is the Minister also able to say whether Mr Knowles has been appointed to, or holds, any other Federal Government positions.

MR M. J. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 796 - 825)—

- (1) How many (a) full time permanent staff, (b) part time permanent staff, (c) full time contract staff and (d) part time contract staff were employed by (i) the Minister's Department and (ii) agencies within the Minister's portfolio as at (A) 30 March 1996 and (B) 30 June 2002.
- (2) For each category of engagement referred to in part (1) and employed by (a) the Minister's Department and (b) agencies within the Minister's portfolio, where were such persons located in (i) 30 March 1996 and (ii) 30 June 2002.

- 796 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 797 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 798 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 799 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 800 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence.
- 801 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 802 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 803 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 804 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 805 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 806 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 807 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 808 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 809 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 810 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 811 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- 812 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- 813 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.
- 814 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Forestry and Conservation.
- 815 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport.
- 816 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism.
- 817 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Science.
- 818 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government.
- 819 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.
- 820 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services.
- 821 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.
- 822 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 823 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.
- 824 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Ageing.
- 825 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.
- MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 826 - 827)—
- (1) Has the Minister been contacted by Freedom Air in relation to a proposal to conduct flights from New Zealand to Maroochydore Airport; if so, when and what was the Minister's response..
 - (2) What aviation and customs related charges are imposed by the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies on a foreign airline landing at Maroochydore airport.
 - (3) How do those costs compare with the costs for a foreign airline to conduct the same flights to Brisbane airport or Cairns airport.
 - (4) Are there any infrastructure, technical or policy barriers to the operation of foreign airline operations to Maroochydore airport; if so, what are they and what sum would they cost to provide.
- 826 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 827 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

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- 828 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is he able to say whether the productivity level of 25 Ukranian seafarers is equivalent to that of 17 Australian seafarers aboard the CSL *Yarra*.

- (2) Is it detrimental to Australia's security to have Australian merchant ships crewed by foreign seafarers.
 - (3) In times of conflict would Australia's economic independence be affected without an Australian flagged and crewed fleet.
 - (4) Did Australia use foreign ships to take personnel and materiel to East Timor in 1999; if so, why.
- 829 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Were more than 25 women from Asian, African and Middle Eastern countries denied Australian visas for the 2002 Townsville International Women's Conference.
 - (2) Were there considerable delays in processing the visas of many of the other participants in the Conference, forcing them to withdraw.
 - (3) Was human rights activist and keynote speaker for the Townsville 2002 Network of Women Students Australia Conference, Dita Sari, one of those excluded.
 - (4) Were any women from countries other than in Asia, Africa and the Middle East denied visas.
- 830 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many secondary movement relocation (class 451) visas has the Government issued to date to successful asylum seekers.
 - (2) What were the countries of origin of these visa holders.
 - (3) Of those issued a secondary movement relocation visa, how many were (a) partners and (b) children of temporary protection visa holders who are already in Australia.
 - (4) Are temporary protection visas for 3 years duration and secondary movement relocation visas for 5 years; if so, does this mean that the Government proposes to review separately, and at different times, the continuing need for protection of individual family members.
- 831 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Does his Department hold leases for flats in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane for use by eligible humanitarian entrants for their first 4 weeks in Australia; if so, in which local government areas are the flats located and how many flats are located in each area.
 - (2) Are these flats currently managed for his Department by a contractor or contractors under the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS); if so, which contractors manage the flats and what is the duration of the relevant funding contracts under which they do so.
 - (3) Is the Government considering changes to the provision of accommodation support under the IHSS; if so, what problems with the existing arrangements have prompted it to do so.
- 832 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is it a fact that in regions like the Riverina and the North West Slopes and Plains of New South Wales, mobile telephone receptions are appalling outside of the outskirts of the main town centres in those areas; if not, why not.
 - (2) What guarantees can the Minister give to the people of Australia that mobile telephone receptions will be accessible to all Australians before the time of the next Federal election, irrespective of their place of abode.
- 833 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Did the Minister see a report on page 2 of *The Age* on 19 August 2002 that the Minister is reshaping the detail of proposals to remove domestic and foreign media ownership restrictions after a few helpful suggestions from Government senators and that the new look legislation will include safeguards for regional markets to stop one proprietor owning all the media.
 - (2) Did any of those suggestions indicate that it was not in the public interest or good for the democracy of Australia to make laws that will allow media proprietors to own and control newspapers, television stations and radio stations in the one licence area like Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Canberra, Darwin, Hobart and Launceston.
 - (3) Will the Minister introduce amendments to the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 to prohibit a media proprietor from owning and controlling newspapers, television stations and radio stations in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Canberra, Darwin, Hobart and Launceston; if not, why not.

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

- (1) What is the full year budgeted cost of the office of the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force following the appointment of the Acting Justice of the NSW Supreme Court, Justice Peter Newman, to that position.
- (2) When will the Director of Military Prosecutions be appointed.

835 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Has the Government produced a response to the Senate Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services' report entitled *A 'Reasonable and Secure' Retirement*, which was tabled in April 2001; if not, why not; if so, what are the details of the Government's response.
- (2) Has the Government any plans to change the indexation method for Commonwealth superannuants.
- (3) How many Commonwealth superannuants receive a part pension from the Commonwealth.

836 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Will the visa office at the Australian Embassy in Dublin close on 1 October 2002.
- (2) Will visa applicants in the Republic of Ireland have to either apply through the Australian visa office in London, or through the internet to receive a visa for entry to Australia.
- (3) Will Irish applicants who apply for Australian visas in the London office be able to pay for their visa in euros.
- (4) As at 19 August 2002, how many people are employed at the Australian embassy in Dublin, and of these, how many are (a) locally engaged and (b) Australian engaged staff, and by which Commonwealth Government departments are these staff employed.
- (5) After the closure of the visa office in the Australian Embassy in Ireland, how many employees will be (a) locally engaged and (b) Australian engaged, and by which Commonwealth Government departments will each of these staff be employed.
- (6) What is the total cost to the Commonwealth associated with closing the visa office in the Dublin embassy, including (a) all staff redundancy payments and costs, (b) costs of re-locating and transporting staff and (c) all costs involved in the process of moving Australian visa services to London.

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837 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What funding has been provided by his Department to ANGLICARE in each State in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002 and (g) 2002-2003.
- (2) For the years referred to in part (1), what was the (a) title and description of each project managed by ANGLICARE, (b) relevant funding program, (c) sum of funding provided each year and (d) location of the project.

838 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) In a letter to the Police Federation of Australia, dated 1 October 2001, did he state that the Heads of Government Agreement that deals with the preservation age for superannuation schemes was being reviewed by the Commonwealth Treasury.
- (2) Has the review by the Commonwealth Treasury made a decision regarding the application of the preservation principles contained in the agreement to superannuation schemes for police officers; if so, what is the decision; if not, why not.
- (3) Which States raised concerns regarding the application of the preservation principles to superannuation schemes for police officers.
- (4) What steps will the Federal Government take to facilitate an agreement with the States to exempt police superannuation from the Heads of Government Agreement.
- (5) Does the Government support the police officers' submission that they be able to access their superannuation at the age of 55.

839 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What is the nature of the Government's support for a national police memorial.
- (2) What sum will be provided by the Federal Government to establish this memorial.
- (3) What is the expected completion date of the proposed national police memorial.

- 840 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Did he announce on 16 August 2002 that the Howard Government had established an independent inquiry to further review telecommunications services to regional, rural and remote Australia.
 - (2) Are the members of this inquiry team Mr Dick Estens, Ms Jane Bennett and Mr Ray Braithwaite.
 - (3) Is the Minister able to say whether Mr Estens is, or has been, a member of the National Party or the Liberal Party or any other political party; if so, which party.
 - (4) Is the Minister able to say whether Ms Bennett is, or has been, a member of the National Party or the Liberal Party or any other political party; if so, which party.
 - (5) Is the Minister able to say whether Mr Braithwaite was the National Party Member for the electoral division of Dawson between 1975 and 1996.
 - (6) Will the report of the inquiry have any influence over the Howard Government's deliberations to fully privatise Telstra; if so, how; if not, why not.
 - (7) How can the people of Australia have any confidence in the Minister's announcement of 16 August 2002 that the further inquiry into telecommunication services to regional, rural and remote Australia is independent.
- 841 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he aware of Channel Nine's *Sunday* program's claim that 13% of oil for food revenue is to be distributed to the Kurdish population in Northern Iraq.
 - (2) Is he able to say why the World Health Organisation (WHO) allows Baghdad to distribute or not distribute medicines brought under the oil for food program to the Kurdish region.
 - (3) Is he able to say whether US\$250 million is being earmarked for Kurdistan per annum, and about \$200 million per annum remains in accounts controlled by the regime in Iraq.
 - (4) Is he also able to say whether there are widespread shortages of key medicines in Kurdistan and Northern Iraq.
 - (5) Has the Australian Government had representatives visit Kurdistan since the establishment of the northern no fly zone.
 - (6) Has the Australian Government made representations to the WHO about the more equitable distribution of the oil for food plan; if not, why not.
- 842 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) During his period as Prime Minister, has he visited any public housing estates in Australia; if so, which public housing estates and on what dates.
 - (2) During his period as Prime Minister, has he visited any Aboriginal communities; if so, which Aboriginal communities and on what dates.
- 843 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Was the plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement adopted under the auspices of the World Trade Organisation at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994.
 - (2) Did the Agreement enter into force on 1 January 1996.
 - (3) Is he able to say which countries have become parties to the Agreement.
 - (4) Which Departments have discussed Australia's accession to the Agreement.
 - (5) On what occasions, in what circumstances and with what results have Ministers or officials discussed Australia's accession with their counterparts in other countries.
- 844 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) Did the International Labour Conference at its 88th session in June 2000 adopt Conclusions concerning Human Resources Training and Development.
 - (2) Has he brought the Conclusions to the attention of any Federal, State and Territory ministers; if so, on what dates, by what means and with what outcomes did he contact the ministers.
- 845 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What arrangements, if any, are in place to provide for personnel security clearances for Ministers or government parliamentary secretaries in respect to their access to classified information.

- (2) What arrangements, if any, are in place to provide for personnel security clearances for shadow ministers in respect to their access to classified information given in confidential briefings by the Government.
- (3) What arrangements, if any, are in place to provide for personnel security clearances for members of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD in respect to their access to classified information provided to the committee.
- (4) What measures does the Government propose to put in place in respect to Members of Parliament to ensure compliance with Australia's obligations under Articles 4 and 5 of the General Security of Information Agreement between the Australian and United States Government of 25 June 2002.
- (5) If no arrangements for personnel security clearances for Members of Parliament are contemplated, on what basis will Members of Parliament be granted access to classified information received from the United States under the terms of the Security Agreement of 25 June 2002.

846 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Will the provisions of Articles 4 and 5 of the General Security of Information Agreement between the Australian and United States Governments of 25 June 2002 apply in respect to access by Members of the Australian Parliament to classified information released to the Australian Government by the United States.
- (2) Will a personnel security clearance be required for Members of Parliament to access classified information released by the United States; if not, why not.
- (3) Are there any additional agreements or understandings between the Australian and United States Governments relating to access by Members of the Australian Parliament to classified information released by the United States; if so, when was any such agreement or understanding made.

847 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the task of the Knowledge Staff and the Chief Knowledge Officer in the Minister's Department.
- (2) What Directorates have been established within the Knowledge Staff and what are their tasks and functions.
- (3) How many members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the public service are employed within this Staff.
- (4) What contribution has been made by the Staff to decisions of the Minister's Department, the ADF and government on acquisitions of technologies and the creation of doctrine for the operations of the ADF.
- (5) What is the relationship of the Staff with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation.
- (6) What is the relationship of the Staff with different sections of the Minister's Department and the ADF responsible for devising policy on the Revolution in Military Affairs.

848 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Further to his reply to question No. 576 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5084), what were the countries of origin of the 252 unauthorised boat arrivals who made landfall in the Torres Strait since 1991.
- (2) What were the countries of origin of those assisted to apply for protection visas and those removed from Australia.
- (3) In which years did these unauthorised persons arrive.

849 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is it a fact that there are currently some 1500 people in Australia suffering with Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia.
- (2) Is the Minister aware of clinical trials on patients in the chronic phase of the disease which show an 88% overall haematological response to the drug Glivec.
- (3) Is the Minister also aware that the same clinical trials on patients in the accelerated or blast phase have shown only a 63% and 26% response to the drug.
- (4) Is it a fact that a recent meeting of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee denied subsidisation of this drug under the National Health Scheme for patients in the chronic phase of this disease.

- (5) If so, is the Minister able to provide advice about why Glivec has only been listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for leukaemia sufferers in the accelerated or blast phase of this disease when the patient's prognosis is extremely poor and the recovery rate less than 25%.
- (6) What has been the demand from physicians and patients for access to this therapy.
- (7) What information does the Minister have about the long term prognosis of patients treated with this drug.
- (8) What is the (a) weekly and (b) annual cost to patients who are being treated with Glivec and whose drugs are not subsidised under the PBS.

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

- (1) What are the revenue implications for the Commonwealth of the decision of the North West Shelf Venture partners to allow the China National Offshore Oil Company equity in the project.
- (2) What are the revenue implications for the Commonwealth of the decision to give China exclusive rights to ship liquefied natural gas from Australia to China.

851 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) Has he received advice on the likely impact on liquefied natural gas (LNG) prices of the contract secured by the North West Shelf partners to sell LNG into China.
- (2) Has he been advised that the world market for LNG is heading into an oversupply situation.
- (3) What advice has he received in relation to the impact of the looming oversupply situation on the economic viability of developing natural gas resources in the Timor Sea.
- (4) Has he received advice that the China contract, its impact on LNG prices, and the looming oversupply situation, makes the lower-price floating LNG plant option of Shell and Woodside more likely.
- (5) Is it only economically viable to bring gas from the Greater Sunrise field for domestic use if an LNG facility is constructed on-shore.
- (6) What is the likely impact of the China contract on the economic viability of the construction of an LNG plant in the Northern Territory to process Greater Sunrise gas.
- (7) Has he received advice that the looming oversupply situation and its impact on LNG prices makes the construction of a 5th LNG train on the Burrup Peninsula unlikely before 2010.
- (8) Does Australia need an expanded and more diversified domestic gas market.
- (9) Are more diversified gas development opportunities including an expanded domestic gas market critical to Australia's gas sector and domestic industrial development; if so, what action is he taking to address these issues.
- (10) Is the China FOB price for LNG under the recently secured North West Shelf contract 30% lower than the equivalent contracts Australian companies have with Japanese customers.
- (11) What impact is the lower China price likely to have on future contract negotiations with Japan, Korea and Taiwan.
- (12) Does he expect that these lower gas prices will flow on to Australia's domestic market customers such as those processing minerals or using gas to fuel power generation.
- (13) Does the China-North West Shelf contract give the Chinese partners full rights to shipping transport.
- (14) What representations did he make to secure shipping rights for Australian vessels.
- (15) Will the shipping rights provide China with an added advantage in the spot market for LNG and what advice has he received regarding the likely downward pressure that advantage will put on LNG prices.

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

- (1) Is question No. 2 which appeared on 13 February 2002 on the first *Notice Paper* of the 40th Parliament the same question No. 2476 which first appeared on the *Notice Paper* on 28 March 2001 during the 39th Parliament.
- (2) Did he receive a letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 20 August 2001 to write to him seeking an early reply to question No. 2476 under standing order 150.
- (3) Did he receive a further letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 14 May 2002 to write to him again seeking an answer to question No. 2 under standing order 150.

(4) Did he receive yet another letter from the Speaker following yet another request by me to the Speaker on 19 August 2002 to write to him seeking an answer to question No. 2 under standing order 150.

(5) When will he answer question No. 2.

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

(1) Is question No. 36 which appeared on 13 February 2002 on the first *Notice Paper* of the 40th Parliament the same question No. 2478 which first appeared on the *Notice Paper* of 28 March 2001 during the 39th Parliament.

(2) Did he receive a letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 29 August 2001 to write to him seeking an early reply to question No. 2478 under standing order 150.

(3) Did he receive a further letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 14 May 2002 to write to him again seeking an answer to question No. 36 under standing order 150.

(4) Did he receive yet another letter from the Speaker following yet another request by me to the Speaker on 19 August 2002 to write to him seeking an answer to question No. 36 under standing order 150.

(5) When will he answer question No. 36.

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

(1) Is question No. 37 which appeared on 13 February 2002 on the first *Notice Paper* of the 40th Parliament the same question No. 2657 which first appeared on the *Notice Paper* of 6 June 2001 during the 39th Parliament.

(2) Did he receive a letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 29 August 2001 to write to him seeking an early reply to question No. 2657 under standing order 150.

(3) Did he receive a further letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 14 May 2002 to write to him again seeking an answer to question No. 37 under standing order 150.

(4) Did he receive yet another letter from the Speaker following yet another request by me to the Speaker on 19 August 2002 to write to him seeking an answer to question No. 37 under standing order 150.

(5) When will he answer question No. 37.

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

(1) Is question No. 39 which appeared on 13 February 2002 on the first *Notice Paper* of the 40th Parliament the same question No. 2698 which first appeared on the *Notice Paper* of 19 June 2001 during the 39th Parliament.

(2) Did he receive a letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 29 August 2001 to write to him seeking an early reply to question No. 2698 under standing order 150.

(3) Did he receive a further letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 14 May 2002 to write to him again seeking an answer to question No. 39 under standing order 150.

(4) Did he receive yet another letter from the Speaker following yet another request by me to the Speaker on 19 August 2002 to write to him seeking an answer to question No. 39 under standing order 150.

(5) When will he answer question No. 39.

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

(1) Is question No. 40 which appeared on 13 February 2002 on the first *Notice Paper* of the 40th Parliament the same question No. 2766 which first appeared on the *Notice Paper* of 27 June 2001 during the 39th Parliament.

(2) Did he receive a letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 29 August 2001 to write to him seeking an early reply to question No. 2766 under standing order 150.

(3) Did he receive a further letter from the Speaker following my request to the Speaker on 14 May 2002 to write to him again seeking an answer to question No. 40 under standing order 150.

(4) Did he receive yet another letter from the Speaker following yet another request by me to the Speaker on 19 August 2002 to write to him seeking an answer to question No. 40 under standing order 150.

(5) When will he answer question No. 40.

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

(1) Is he able to say whether in July 2002 there were mass demonstrations in Tehran calling for the end of the Islamic Republic.

(2) Is he able to say whether six leading members of Iran's notorious Revolutionary Guard issued a communiqué in support of the people of Iran.

- (3) Is he able to say whether the Grand Ayatollah Taheri of Esfehan openly sided with student demonstrators, calling on the ruling theocracy to give up power.
- (4) Is he able to say whether Ayatollah Taheri's announcement against the tyranny of the current Iranian regime also included a defence of Ayatollah Montazeri, one of the most outspoken domestic critics of Iran who has been under house arrest for years.
- (5) Is he able to say whether Ayatollah Taheri's announcement applauded Montazeri's fatwah or ruling against the practice of suicide bombing.
- (6) Is he able to say whether ayatollah's from Qom have been in clandestine contact with the son of the late Shah of Iran asking him to send cassettes verbalizing a message of non-violent civil disobedience against the regime.
- (7) Is he able to say whether during the demonstrations, the Iranian police force was confined to barracks and foreigners with paramilitary training, chiefly Palestinian and Iraqi Arabs, and Uzbeks and Tadjiks from Afghanistan, were sent to beat the demonstrators down.
- (8) Is he also able to say whether during these demonstrations the protestors also denounced President Mohammad Khatami.

27 August 2002

858 **MR RANDALL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the secret United Kingdom inland revenue strategy which, for years, allowed some of the wealthiest people in Great Britain to escape paying their full potential taxation bills and which was declared unlawful by a senior High Court Judge, Lord Gill, on 31 May 2002.
- (2) Can the Minister assure the Australian public that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has no similar strategy in place.
- (3) Are there any Australian taxpayers who do not have to declare their real earnings by virtue of any agreement or other arrangement with the ATO.
- (4) Are there any Australian taxpayers who pay a fixed sum in taxation by virtue of any agreement or arrangement with the ATO.

MS JACKSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 859 - 860)—

- (1) Has a decision been made with respect to the ongoing funding of urban landcare projects via the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) in the Swan and Canning Catchment Regions of Perth; if not, why not.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that a failure to fund urban landcare projects puts at risk the significant gains that have been made to restore Perth's river systems in the last few years; if not, why not.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that there are 11 Community Landcare Co-ordinators employed in the Swan and Canning Catchment Regions who may lose their jobs in September 2002 due to the lack of certainty about federal funding; if not, why not.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that the work of 17 catchment groups and over 200 other environmental groups, representing many thousands of community volunteers in the Swan and Canning Catchment Regions, are being affected by the failure of the Government to release NHT funds for urban projects; if not, why not.
- (5) Is the Government considering making available no more than \$50 to \$100 million in this interim year, despite a figure of \$250 million being put forward in budget papers for NHT funding; if not, why not.
- (6) Can the Minister guarantee that funding will be available to enable the continued employment of the 11 Community Landcare Co-ordinators employed in the Swan and Canning Catchment Regions after September 2002, while the Government decides how urban projects will be funded in the future; if not, why not.
- (7) Will urban landcare projects suffer a reduction in funding as a result of NHT guidelines that give priority to rural groups and sustainable agriculture, and much less money being available for the NHT than the Government first indicated; if not, why not.

859 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

860 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

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

- (1) Further to question No. 678, does former Senator Colston's recent demonstrated capacity to undertake both motor vehicle and air travel indicate a change in circumstances whereby the Director

of Public Prosecutions (DPP) might consider reviewing the current state of health of Dr Colston with a view to assessing his capacity to stand trial on the twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts; if so, what might that review involve; if not, why not.

- (2) Since July 1999, was the DPP advised on each occasion of the full details of Dr Colston's taxpayer-funded motorcar or aircraft travel; if so, what was the DPP advised and what action did the DPP take to satisfy himself of the nature of Dr Colston's travel; if not, why not.
- (3) Since July 1999, did the DPP inquire of Dr Colston, or any of the medical practitioners treating him, whether any of Dr Colston's taxpayer-funded travel was for the sole purpose of medical treatment; if so, what was he advised; if not, why not.
- (4) In light of the independent medical assessments by two eminent medical specialists who reported on Dr Colston on 14 and 19 May 1999 that his life expectancy was only months and which led to the DPP at that time determining that there was no prospect of Dr Colston being fit to stand trial on the twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts, is the DPP prepared to invite Dr Colston to offer himself for fresh medical examination and assessment by appropriately qualified expert medical specialists; if not, why not.
- (5) Will the DPP initiate immediate up-to-date medical assessments of Dr Colston by appropriately qualified expert medical specialists with a view to establishing Dr Colston's capacity to stand trial on twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts; if not, why, not.

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

- (1) What are the complete details of all of the taxpayer-funded motor vehicle and aircraft travel journeys undertaken by former Senator Colston since July 1999, including the times, dates and places of departure and arrival of each trip.
- (2) What was the cost to the taxpayer of each trip.
- (3) What is the total cost of taxpayer-funded transport afforded to Dr Colston since July 1999.

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

- (1) Does the Sydney Airport Noise Complaints Line record statistics for the number of complaints made to the line in the evening after 5 p.m. when the staffed service ends; if so, what are the figures so far for 2002 and what proportion of those calls are from people living under the flightpath of the western runway.
- (2) Why are the phones not staffed between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. when families to the west of the airport generally experience the worst noise.

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

- (1) Is he aware of a resolution passed by the Sydney Airport Community Forum directing that, if noise sharing is in operation at Sydney airport, residents should not be subjected to aircraft noise late in the evening and again the following morning, allowing the opportunity for a reasonable night's sleep; if so, does he support the objective of this resolution.
- (2) On how many days so far in 2002 at Sydney Airport have there been either take-offs to, or landings from, the west after 10 p.m. followed by take-offs to, or landings from, the west before 7 a.m.

865 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What was the annual intake and completion rate of apprentices and traineeships in the five years prior to the operation of the New Apprenticeship system and what have been the annual figures since then.
- (2) What were the numbers involved in trade apprenticeships and their completion rates prior to the introduction of the New Apprenticeship system and what has been the equivalent performance in the same trades in the years since the introduction of the new system.
- (3) What were the average numbers of years served by each apprentice and trainee to complete a qualification under the system prior to the introduction of the New Apprenticeship system and what has been the average since then.
- (4) What has been the number of training hours per employee in the workforce on an annual basis since 1991.
- (5) What percentage of apprentices and trainees used the facilities of TAFE for part of their qualification prior to the introduction of the New Apprenticeship system and what has been the percentage since then.

- 866 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Which organisations applied for funding under the International Year of the Volunteers Small Equipment Grants scheme in 2001 in the electoral division of Calwell.
 - (2) What is the current breakdown of benefits provided through Centrelink to residents in the electoral division of Calwell and how does this compare with (a) 2001, (b) 2000, (c) 1999, (d) 1998, (e) 1997 and (f) 1996.
- 867 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) How many people residing in the electoral division of Calwell are currently enrolled in tertiary studies.
 - (2) How many of these students reside within the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046, (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427 and (n) 3428.
 - (3) How many of these students have an outstanding or accumulated Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) debt.
 - (4) How many students with an outstanding or accumulated HECS debt reside in each of the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046, (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427 and (n) 3428.
 - (5) How many people residing in the electoral division of Calwell but not enrolled in tertiary studies have outstanding or accumulated HECS debt.
- 868 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—What were the (a) names, (b) addresses and (c) hours of operations of organisations that are part of the Job Network in the postcode areas of (i) 3036, (ii) 3037, (iii) 3038, (iv) 3043, (v) 3046, (vi) 3047, (vii) 3048, (viii) 3049, (ix) 3059, (x) 3060, (xi) 3061, (xii) 3064, (xiii) 3427 and (xiv) 3428.
- 869 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) On most recent data, how many nursing home beds are located within the electoral division of Calwell.
 - (2) How many of these beds are in use.
 - (3) How many allocated beds within the electoral division of Calwell are yet to be occupied.
 - (4) Of the beds yet to be occupied and located within the electoral division of Calwell, when were the bed licences allocated.

28 August 2002

- 870 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Which wetlands, designated by Australia to the List of Wetlands of International Importance as part of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, are in the electoral divisions of (a) Scullin, (b) Calwell, (c) Wills, (d) Jagajaga, and (e) McEwen.
 - (2) Since 1996, (a) how many wetlands have been designated by Australia to the List of Wetlands of International Importance, (b) on what dates were they designated and (c) where are they located.
- 871 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—
- (1) What names were recently recommended by the Australia Council to the Minister for appointment to the Music Board of the Australia Council.
 - (2) Were any of the names recommended for the Music Board of the Australia Council agreed to by the Minister; if not, why not.
 - (3) What individuals were appointed to the Music Board of the Australia Council.
 - (4) What were the criteria used for choosing these individuals rather than those recommended by the independent statutory authority.
 - (5) What sum of Commonwealth funding does the Music Board of the Australia Council allocate to musicians in Australia annually.
- 872 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Of all refugee and humanitarian stream entrants in 2001-2002, how many (a) were fully eligible to receive assistance under the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS), (b) had a sponsor who was expected to be responsible for their post-arrival needs and (c) were ineligible for IHSS assistance because they were issued with a temporary protection visa.

- (2) For Budget planning purposes, what is the expected number of refugee and humanitarian stream entrants who will be eligible for IHSS assistance (a) in 2002-2003 and (b) in subsequent financial years.
- (3) How is the annual minimum number of eligible entrants for individual IHSS service providers determined each year and how does this number relate to the IHSS payment cycle.

873 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) For each year since its commencement, what was the amount spent under the Living in Harmony initiative on (a) the community grants program, (b) departmental overheads for the grants program, (c) promotional and related expenses for Harmony Day and (d) other purposes.
- (2) Who conducted the evaluation of the initiative and as part of the evaluation process what consultation, if any, occurred with (a) State and Territory Governments, (b) ethnic community organisations and (c) indigenous organisations.
- (3) What were the findings and recommendations of the evaluation and on what date was the final evaluation report submitted to the Government.
- (4) Is the evaluation report available to the public; if not, on what grounds is it being withheld.
- (5) As part of the initiative, has his Department conducted any market research on issues to do with racial discrimination or community harmony in Australia; if so, (a) when was the research conducted, (b) which organisations conducted the research and (c) what was the cost of each research study.

874 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Who are the members of the Settlement Planning Committees in each State and Territory.
- (2) How many meetings did each committee hold in the latest year for which data is available.
- (3) Are the committees expected to consult formally with the community and interested stakeholders; if so, what mechanisms exist for them to actually do so.
- (4) What specific roles, if any, do the committees have in (a) planning and (b) funding processes under (i) the Community Settlement Services Scheme, (ii) the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy and (iii) the Migrant Resource Centre program.
- (5) Is each committee required to produce an annual report on its activities; if so, to whom are these reports provided; if not, why not.

875 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) For what specific purposes is funding available to eligible organisations under the Ethnic Aged Care Services grants program.
- (2) How many organisations currently receive funding under the program in each State and Territory.
- (3) What was the total sum of funding provided under the program in 2001-2002 and what is the estimated sum of funding that is available in 2002-2003.
- (4) Has the Government initiated a review of the program; if so, (a) who is conducting the review, (b) what are the terms of reference, (c) what consultation, if any, is proposed with ethnic community organisations and (d) what is the expected completion date of the review.

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

- (1) Has he seen the report on page 5 of *The Australian* on 27 August 2002 by the Political Editor, Mr Dennis Shanahan which reveals that the leading proponent of embryonic stem cell research, Professor Alan Trounson, had admitted that his trump card video showing a crippled rat walking which was used in trying to win over politicians was not demonstrating a success from the kind of embryos covered in the Research Involving Embryos and Prohibition of Human Cloning Bill 2002.
- (2) Is he aware that Professor Trounson and his colleagues have now admitted that the crippled rat's cure had not come from the five-day-old fertilised eggs that will be made available under the Bill but from germ cells from five-to nine week old aborted fetuses.
- (3) Is he aware that Peter Silburn from Griffith University in Queensland has stated that germ cells used in the John Hopkins Institute research were beyond the stage of stem cells.
- (4) Is he also aware that the Premier of New South Wales has used the video to promote the chance of cures from using IVF embryos and that this video was also shown on national television as an example of embryonic stem cell research.
- (5) Is he also aware that Professor Trounson has now admitted that he may have used the term embryonic stem cells when talking to parliamentarians although he knew the cells used with rats were germ cells.

- (6) When he spoke with Professor Trounson, did Professor Trounson bring to his knowledge the case of the crippled rat used in the video.
- (7) In light of his having introduced the Bill into the House of Representatives and the misleading information provided to Members of Parliament by Professor Trounson, will he make an immediate statement, in the public interest, in the House to further expose this matter; if not, why not.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 605 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5090), have aircraft noise targets for Sydney Airport been missed.
- (2) Is the failure of the Government ever to meet its aircraft noise targets as prescribed in the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) for Sydney Airport a matter of current public importance.
- (3) Has he addressed the concerns of those motions of the Sydney Airport Community Forum concerning the full implementation of the LTOP; if so, how; if not, when will he do so.
- (4) In light of his cognate answer to parts (1) to (3) of question No. 605, can he show by reference to previous questions asked by me, where he has answered part (3) of my question.
- (5) Can he clarify how and when he has directed Airservices Australia to implement fully the LTOP for Sydney Airport; if not, why not.

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

- (1) Is he aware of reforms announced by the Reserve Bank of Australia which identifies an estimated \$350 million of profiteering by banks and credit card companies.
- (2) Has the Government accepted the recommended reforms; if so, what action will the Government take with respect to these recommendations; if not, why not.
- (3) What powers will the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) be given in order to ensure that benefits flow through to retailers and consumers across Australia.
- (4) What specific powers will the ACCC be given with respect to ensuring that credit card participants do not seek to recoup any reduction in revenue resulting from a lower interchange fee by increasing other fees and charges.
- (5) What powers will the Australian Securities and Investments Commission be given in order to ensure that consumer protection from foreshadowed changes to the credit card schemes is preserved.

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

- (1) Further to part (3) of the answer to question No. 391 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4911), is a scoping study the first stage of the Commonwealth sale cycle of assets, as was the case with the appointment of Salomon Smith Barney to perform the scoping study for the sale of Sydney Airport; if not, why not.
- (2) Has any person been retained to perform these scoping studies in relation to the possible sale of Medibank Private Ltd and Comland Ltd.; if so, who is that person.

880 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Which states were elected to the Commission on Human Rights in 2002.
- (2) Which resolutions were sponsored or co-sponsored by Australia.
- (3) Which resolutions came to a vote.
- (4) What was the result of those resolutions which came to a vote.
- (5) What are the names and positions of the persons who represented Australia at the 2002 session.

29 August 2002

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

- (1) Did the Minister see an editorial titled “The ABC needs its own ombudsman” on page 14 of *The Age* newspaper on Wednesday, 28 August 2002.
- (2) Could an Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) ombudsman operate like the police ombudsman, accepting the more serious complaints that cannot be resolved in other ways.
- (3) Will the Minister consider legislating for an ABC ombudsman; if so, when; if not, why not.

- 882 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) Further to the answer to part (3) of question No. 472 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4970), how many of the former Internova employees have been assessed as being (a) eligible and (b) ineligible for entitlements under the General Employee and Redundancy Scheme.
 - (2) What sum of money is available in aggregate.
 - (3) Further to the answer to part (4) of question No. 472, is he able to say which Minister has portfolio responsibility for the subject matter of the question.
- 883 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 392 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4911), is he able to define the term “smuggling”; if so, (a) what is that definition and (b) where under Commonwealth law is that definition found.
 - (2) Does the definition only relate to a rateable tariff under Commonwealth import regulations and cannot be applied to persons.
 - (3) Can he clarify how the estimated \$1,237 million over five years will be spent in order to maintain the integrity of Australia’s borders.
 - (4) Does the Government have a policy on what constitutes the War on Terrorism; if so, has the policy been announced; if so, what are the details and how does that policy relate to the moneys budgeted in the 2002-2003 Budget.
- 884 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Further to his answer to part (3) of question No. 358 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4893), which of the 26 Medicare eligible MRI sites in NSW are teaching hospitals.
 - (2) What proportion of Medicare eligible MRI sites in NSW are teaching hospitals.
 - (3) What is the distribution of teaching hospitals in NSW.
 - (4) What is the distribution of teaching hospitals in NSW that have MRI licenses or offer Medicare eligible MRI services.
 - (5) What proportion of teaching hospitals in NSW either have MRI licences or offer Medicare eligible MRI services.
 - (6) Is the Concord Repatriation General Hospital a teaching hospital of the University of Sydney.
 - (7) Will the Minister offer Concord Repatriation General Hospital an MRI licence and allow it to provide Medicare eligible MRI services; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 885 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—What steps are being undertaken by the Government to implement the proposed ban on the use and importation of chrysotile asbestos.
- 886 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Why was the Advanced English for Migrant Program (AEMP) conducted by the Illawarra Institute of TAFE let out to tender in 2001.
 - (2) What were the criteria upon which the tender was allocated.
 - (3) Is there any justification for tendering out the AEMP courses to a provider that does not appear to have the necessary resources to offer the full range of courses previously provided by the TAFE Institute; if so, what is the justification.
 - (4) Are private providers who win tenders able to subcontract back to the TAFE system if they are unable to meet their commitment to students.
 - (5) Does he approve of private providers making a profit from the above-mentioned process.
 - (6) Is there considerable waste of public resources and capital facilities with the tendering out of courses previously run by the TAFE system.
 - (7) What audit is taken to ensure that a provider offers the full range of courses previously conducted through the TAFE Institute.
 - (8) Will he supplement funding to the Illawarra Institute of TAFE so that it can reinstate the full range of AEMP courses previously conducted by that public institution.
- 887 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Will the Government make public the full text of the exchange of notes relating to the Australia-United States General Security of Information Agreement which the Attorney-General referred to in debate on 26 August 2002 on the Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Offences) Bill 2002; if not, why not.

888 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What is the cost of the trial of polygraph or electronic lie detector tests being undertaken within the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO).
- (2) When did the ASIO polygraph trial commence and when will it be completed.
- (3) Is the polygraph trial conducted by ASIO personnel or by external contractors.
- (4) In what States or Territories have polygraph examinations been carried out.
- (5) How many ASIO personnel have been subject to a polygraph examination as part of the trial.
- (6) How many ASIO personnel have been evaluated as (a) non-deceptive or (b) deceptive in their responses in polygraph examinations.
- (7) Has the personnel security clearance status of any ASIO officer been changed as a consequence of a polygraph examination.
- (8) Has the Government had any discussions or exchanges with US Government departments or agencies concerning possible requirements for polygraph testing of Australian personnel granted access to classified information released by the US.
- (9) What system of professional training and accreditation applies to polygraph examiners in Australia.
- (10) How many trained and professionally accredited polygraph examiners are currently employed by the Government.
- (11) Are there any Australian national standards or other guidelines relating to the use of polygraph tests.

889 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Are the National Guidelines for referral of politically sensitive matters to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) issued by the Attorney-General on 28 October 1996 and 14 May 1998 still current; if not, what are the current National Guidelines for referral of politically sensitive matters to the AFP.
- (2) Does the Government apply any written criteria in determining what constitutes a politically sensitive matter requiring notification to the Minister responsible for the AFP; if so, what criteria are applied.

890 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2001-2002, how many times has the Minister responsible for the Australian Federal Police (AFP) been notified in accordance with the relevant National Guidelines of the referral of a politically sensitive matter to the AFP.
- (2) Which Commonwealth Ministers, Departments or agencies referred politically sensitive matters to the AFP.
- (3) How many referrals of politically sensitive matters to the AFP were (a) accepted or (b) declined.
- (4) What was the cost to the AFP of investigations of politically sensitive matters.
- (5) How many AFP investigations of politically sensitive matters related to possible offences under section 79 of the Crimes Act.
- (6) How many persons were (a) prosecuted and (b) convicted of a Commonwealth offence as a consequence of referral of a politically sensitive matter to the AFP.
- (7) How many persons were (a) prosecuted and (b) convicted of an offence under section 79 of the Crimes Act as a consequence of referral of a politically sensitive matter to the AFP.

891 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2001-2002, how many investigations were undertaken by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) into possible offences under section 79 of the Crimes Act.
- (2) What was the cost to the AFP of investigations of possible offences under section 79 of the Crimes Act.
- (3) How many persons were (a) prosecuted and (b) convicted of an offence under section 79 of the Crimes Act.

892 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) As at 30 June of each year from 1996 to 2002, how many personnel were employed in the (a) Telecommunications Interception Division of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and (b) Telecommunications Interception Section of the National Crime Authority (NCA).
- (2) What work has been undertaken to develop a joint AFP and NCA Telecommunications Interception Facility.

893 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001, how many alleged cases of fraud involving dishonestly obtaining a benefit by deception or other means were identified or reported for evaluation by Commonwealth Departments or agencies in accordance with the Commonwealth's Fraud Control Guidelines.
- (2) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001, how many alleged cases of fraud were identified or reported for each Department or agency submitting reports to his Department in accordance with the Fraud Control Guidelines.
- (3) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001, how many alleged cases of fraud were (a) investigated by the responsible Department or agency, (b) referred to the Australian Federal Police, (c) referred to State or Territory police or (d) not pursued.
- (4) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001, how many fraud investigations resulted in (a) referral to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, (b) prosecution by the responsible Department or agency or (c) no further action because insufficient evidence or suspects resigned, retired or otherwise left the organisation.
- (5) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001, how many persons employed by or serving as contractors to the Commonwealth Government were successfully prosecuted for offences involving fraud against the Commonwealth.
- (6) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001, what was the estimated value of losses resulting from alleged fraud reported by each Department and agency in accordance with the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines.

894 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001, how many cases of alleged fraud against the Commonwealth, as defined in the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines, were investigated by the Australian Federal Police (AFP).
- (2) What was the cost to the AFP of these investigations each year.

895 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing Comcar drivers are there in each capital city.
- (2) For each category referred to in part (1), how many drivers are employed in each capital city (a) under a collective agreement and (b) on an Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA).
- (3) During the winter adjournment of the Parliament, (a) how many casuals employed in each capital city under (i) a collective agreement and (ii) an AWA were offered employment, (b) what was the average number of hours worked by casuals in each capital city under (i) a collective agreement and (ii) an AWA and (c) how many hours of employment were worked by non-ongoing drivers in each capital city under (i) a collective agreement and (ii) an AWA.
- (4) Is information identifying which casual drivers are employed on a collective agreement or an AWA available to those staff who (a) decide which drivers are engaged and (b) allocate jobs to drivers; if so, in what way is it available.
- (5) Is there any advice or instruction within the Minister's Department to give preference of engagement to non-ongoing staff who are employed on AWAs; if so, what is it.
- (6) What guidelines are used to determine which non-ongoing staff are offered employment and how are those guidelines promulgated to both drivers and those who determine the engagement.

896 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Did he recently circulate a colour brochure on the new Baxter Immigration Reception and Processing Centre; if so, (a) what sum did the brochure cost to produce, (b) what was its print run and (c) to whom was it circulated.

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

- (1) How many staff were employed by Telstra mainly to repair, maintain and install Telstra telecommunications cable in 1996.
- (2) How many staff are currently employed by Telstra mainly to repair, maintain and install Telstra telecommunications cable.
- (3) How many non-Telstra outsourced staff performed work under contract to Telstra during 2001-2002 repairing, maintaining and installing Telstra telecommunications cable

- (4) How many staff are currently employed by Telstra.
- (5) What is the current lifespan of Telstra telecommunications cable and is there a national plan to ensure that Telstra replaces telecommunications cable before its effective working life ends; if so, what are the details of the plan.
- 898 **MS J. S. MCFARLANE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many National Service Medal applications have been received by the Medals Directorate of the Minister's Department.
- (2) How many National Service Medals have been awarded to applicants in (a) January, (b) February, (c) March, (d) April, (e) May, (f) June and (g) July 2002.
- (3) What is the average time taken to process applications for the National Service Medal.
- (4) How large is the backlog of National Service Medal applications.
- (5) Did the Minister's Department employ any extra staff to cope with the workload caused by the National Service Medal; if so, how many extra full time equivalent positions were created; if not, why not.
- (6) Does the Minister have any plans in the short term to increase resources to the Medals Directorate to reduce the backlog of National Service Medal applications and to reduce stress on the existing staff.
- 899 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he able to say whether the Chinese Government has charged many of its outspoken democratic dissident with political "monomania" or insanity and detained them in psychiatric hospitals.
- (2) Is he able to say whether up to 15% of Chinese psychiatric inmates are in custody for political reasons.
- (3) Is he able to say whether those incarcerated include independent labour organisers, whistle blowers and those who complain about political persecution or official misconduct, as well as other democratic opponents.
- (4) Is he able to say whether one of these prisoners is China's longest serving political prisoner Wang Wan Xing who was first arrested in the mid 1970s.
- (5) Is he also able to say whether Wang Wan Xing has been held in an institution for the criminally insane for most of the past decade based on a diagnosis by police psychiatrists that he is a paranoid psychotic.
- (6) Has the Australian China Human Rights Dialogue discussed with its Chinese interlocutors this abuse of psychiatry and Australia's long standing opposition to this abuse including during period of the former USSR.
- (7) Did his Department discuss these issues and other issues of human rights in China during their recent meeting with leading Chinese democratic activists Wei Cheng Sheng.

16 September 2002

- *900 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Did he recently circulate a colour brochure on his presentation entitled "Managed Migration – Who does the Managing?"; if so, (a) what sum did the brochure cost to produce, (b) what was its print run and (c) to whom was it circulated.
- *901 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Who carried out the post-mortem examination following the death of a 28-year old Afghan asylum seeker in August on Nauru.
- (2) What was the determined cause of death.
- (3) Given the age of the man and no reported signs of disease or self-harm, why was his body not flown to the nearest available facility where a proper autopsy could be conducted.
- (4) What arrangements have been made for the return of the man's body to Afghanistan.
- (5) What costs have been incurred and who will meet those costs.
- *902 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—What are the daily figures for all immigration reception and detention centres, including those on Manus Island, Nauru and the facility at Baxter, for which the Government may recover costs pursuant to section 209 of the Migration Act.

- *903 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Trade—What are the current automotive tariffs imposed by countries in the APEC region in respect of (a) cars, (b) trucks and (c) parts.
- *904 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Who are the members of the Australian National Group who nominated candidates for a term of nine years on the International Court of Justice from February 2003.
 - (2) Who did the Group nominate as candidates.
- *905 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Will he bring up-to-date the information he gave concerning conventions in The Hague Conference system in his answer to question No. 2743 (*Hansard*, 17 September 2001, page 30816).
- *906 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—Has the Minister's Department had leases on a building in (a) Church Street, Maitland and (b) Mitchell Drive, East Maitland; if so, what are the details of each lease, including the (i) dates of operation, (ii) financial terms and (iii) actual tenant.
- *907 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the answer to question No. 330 (*Hansard*, 20 August 2002, page 5164) concerning funding under the Roads of National Importance program, for (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, (c) 2004-2005 and (d) 2005-2006, which projects have been identified in each State and Territory and what sum has been allocated to each project in each of those years.
- *908 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 601 (*Hansard*, 20 August 2002, page 5177) concerning assistance to Australiawide Airlines, what agreement does the Government have with Australiawide to continue to provide air services to regional routes solely serviced by Kendall or Hazelton beyond the six months referred to.
 - (2) What are the routes solely served by Kendall or Hazelton covered by the agreement.
 - (3) Does the agreement detail the number of flights on these regional routes solely served by Kendall or Hazelton; if so, how does that service compare with that previously provided by Kendall or Hazelton and what mechanism will be used to ensure those routes remain serviced by Australiawide.
 - (4) Does the agreement to pay \$5 million to Australiawide provide for any other payment by the Government across any portfolio now or in the future.
 - (5) How many dollars remain in the Rapid Route Recovery scheme program after payment of the \$5 million to Australiawide.
- *909 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How many seafarers have been killed or seriously injured in Australian waters and ports in each of the last five years.
 - (2) What was the name, flag state of the vessel and the date of each death or serious injury.
 - (3) What deaths or serious injuries have been investigated by (a) the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, (b) State investigation authority or (c) coroner.
 - (4) Did any safety actions arise from any of these investigations; if so, what are they and have they been acted upon.
- *910 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Which States have become parties to the Unesco Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage adopted on 2 November 2001.
- *911 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Will he bring up-to-date the information provided in the answer to question No. 2889 (*Hansard*, 17 September 2001, page 30827) on the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region which came into effect on 1 February 1999.
 - (2) Has Australia consulted with New Zealand about the Convention.
- *912 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Following the Reserve Bank of Australia's recently proposed reform of the credit card system, what is the maximum surcharge a merchant is able to charge for credit card transactions.
 - (2) What jurisdiction and powers does the Government or the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission have to regulate and limit surcharge fees charged on credit card transactions and interchange fees.

- (3) Has the Government any guarantee that the reforms will not result in merchants charging surcharges of (a) 10%, (b) 20% or (c) 30% or higher for credit card use.

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

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the practice of government affiliated blood collection agencies in China pooling blood to extract plasma and then returning the pooled blood to donors to prevent anaemia.
- (2) Is he able to say whether this practice has led to infection of blood donor supplies by individuals with HIV and AIDS.
- (3) Is he able to say whether, despite a recent Chinese central government crackdown, local officials persist in selling tainted blood.
- (4) Are Australian authorities aware that Henan province was the epicentre of this blood selling business and in some villages over 60% of residents are now HIV positive; if so, is his Department able to confirm whether in that province, in a majority of families, a majority of adults have died and only youth or elderly remain.
- (5) Is it expected that at the forthcoming 16th Party Congress of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), Li Chang Chun, the Henan CCP Chief and protégé of Premier Jiang Zemin, will be elevated as Vice Premier.
- (6) Has the Australian Government offered to provide Australian public education programs on the prevention of the spread of HIV and AIDS to national and regional governments in China.
- (7) What steps, if any, has the Australian Government taken to warn Australian tourists to China of the danger of accessing local blood supplies in the event of being involved in accidents.

*914 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—Further to his discussion paper on university finances entitled “Setting Firm Foundations” and Table 1 which lists distribution of HECS debts, is he able to provide in the same format what the distribution of HECS debts is and the average HECS debt of (a) all HECS debtors who have not made any repayments and who first incurred a HECS debt in or prior to 1999, (b) graduates who have not made any repayments and who first incurred a HECS debt in or prior to 1999, (c) all HECS debtors who have not made any repayments, (d) graduates who have not made any repayments, (e) all HECS debtors who first incurred a HECS debt between 1997 and 1999 and who have not made any repayments and (f) graduates who first incurred a HECS debt between 1997 and 1999 and who have not made any repayments.

*915 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Does he support the competitive recruitment process proposed for Community Landcare Associations.
- (2) Have Coastcare, Bushcare and Waterwatch been granted funds to allow for staff job security until 30 June 2003 but not community Landcare associations; if so, (a) why and (b) will he rectify this inequity and extend grants to Landcare until 30 June 2003; if not, why not.
- (3) Is the three months time span for recruitment unreasonably short.
- (4) Is maintaining employment continuity of current staff vital to the completion of many current projects.
- (5) Is he aware that many projects under the current National Heritage Trust will continue to employ staff until 31 March 2003 in order to complete activities and reports even though funding only extends to their projects until 31 December 2002.
- (6) Can the competitive recruitment process lead to a loss of expertise and established working relationships.

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I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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SPEAKER'S PANEL

Mr Adams, Mr Barresi, Ms Corcoran, Ms Gambaro, Mr Hawker, Mr Lindsay, Mr Mossfield, Mr Price, Mr Scott, Mr Wilkie.

COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 40th Parliament

Standing

Pursuant to standing orders

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS: Mr Wakelin (*Chair*), Mr Danby, Mrs Draper, Mr Haase, Ms Hoare, Mrs Hull, Dr Lawrence, Mr Lloyd, Mr Snowdon, Mr Tollner.

Current inquiry:

Capacity building in indigenous communities.

AGEING: Dr Southcott (*Chair*), Ms Corcoran, Ms Ellis, Ms Gambaro, Ms Hall, Mr Hartsuyker, Mr Hunt, Mrs May, Mr Mossfield, Mr A. D. H. Smith.

Current inquiry:

Long term strategies to address ageing of the Australian population over the next 40 years.

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY: Mrs Elson (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Mrs Ley, Mr Scultz, Mr Secker, Mr Sidebottom, Mr Windsor, Mr Zahra.

Current inquiry:

Future water supplies for Australia's rural industries and communities.

COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS: Mr Pyne (*Chair*), Mr Baldwin, Mr Ciobo, Ms Grierson, Mr Hatton, Mr Johnson, Mr Pearce, Mr Sercombe, Mr Tanner, Mr Ticehurst.

Current inquiry:

Wireless broadband technologies.

ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: Mr Hawker (*Chair*), Mr Albanese, Ms Burke, Ms Gambaro, Mr Griffin, Mr P. E. King, Mr Latham, Mr Nairn, Mr Somlyay, Dr Southcott.

Current inquiries:

Local government and cost shifting.

Reserve Bank of Australia annual report 2000-01.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING: Mr Bartlett (*Chair*), Mr Albanese, Mrs Elson, Ms Gambaro, Mr Johnson, Mrs May, Mr Pearce, Ms Plibersek, Mr Sawford, Mr Sidebottom. (Mr Cadman and Mr Wilkie to serve as a supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into the education of boys.)

Current inquiry:

Education of boys.

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS: Mrs D. M. Kelly (*Chair*), Mr Barresi, Mr Bevis, Mr Dutton, Ms Hall, Mr Hartsuyker, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Randall, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wilkie.

Current inquiry:

Australian workers' compensation schemes.

ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE: Mr Billson (*Chair*), Mr Barresi, Mr Cobb, Ms George, Mr Hunt, Mr Jenkins, Mr Kerr, Mr Lindsay, Ms Livermore, Mr McArthur.

Current inquiry:

Employment in the environment sector.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mrs Hull (*Chair*), Mr Cadman, Ms Draper, Mr Dutton, Mr Edwards, Ms George, Mrs Irwin, Mr Pearce, Mr C. P. Thomson. (Mr Quick and Mr Wakelin to be supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into substance abuse in Australian communities.)

Current inquiry:

Substance abuse in Australian communities.

HOUSE: The Speaker, Mr Charles, Mrs Crosio, Mr Haase, Ms Jackson, Mr Quick, Mr Somlyay.

INDUSTRY AND RESOURCES: Mr Prosser (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Byrne, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr Randall, Mr C. P. Thomson, Mr Tollner, Dr Washer. (Mr Fitzgibbon and Mr Ticehurst to serve as supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into impediments to increasing investment in mineral and petroleum exploration in Australia.)

Current inquiry:

Impediments to increasing investment in mineral and petroleum exploration in Australia.

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS: Mrs B. K. Bishop (*Chair*), Ms J. I. Bishop, Mr Cadman, Mr Kerr, Mr Melham, Mr Murphy, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Sciacca, Mr Secker, Dr Washer.

Current inquiry:

Crime in the community.

LIBRARY: Mr Adams, Mrs Draper, Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mr Georgiou, Ms Hoare, Mr Randall.

MEMBERS' INTERESTS: Mr Haase (*Chair*), Mrs Crosio, Mr Jenkins, Mr Lindsay, Mr Neville, Mr Quick, Mr C. P. Thompson.

PRIVILEGES: Mr Somlyay (*Chair*), Mr Baird, Mr Barresi (nominee of the Leader of the House), Mr Billson, Mrs B. K. Bishop, Mr Brereton, Mr M. J. Ferguson, Mr McLeay, Ms Plibersek (nominee of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition), Mr Sawford, Mr Scott.

PROCEDURE: Mrs May (*Chair*), Mrs B. K. Bishop, Mr M. J. Ferguson, Mr Haase, Mr P. E. King, Mr Price, Ms Vamvakinou.

Current inquiry:

Adequacy of procedures for examining the estimates of expenditure.

PUBLICATIONS: Mr Randall (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Cobb, Mrs Crosio, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Ms J. S. McFarlane, Mr Tollner.

SCIENCE AND INNOVATION: Mr Nairn (*Chair*), Ms Corcoran, Mr Evans, Mr Forrest, Ms Grierson, Mr Hatton, Mr Lindsay, Mr A. D. H. Smith, Mr Ticehurst, Dr Washer.

Current inquiry:

Commitment of Australian business to research and development.

SELECTION: Mr Causley (*Chair*), Mrs Crosio, Mr Danby, Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Mr Hawker, Mr Lloyd, Mr McArthur, Mr Neville, Mr Quick, Mr Wilkie.

TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES: Mr Neville (*Chair*), Mr Andren, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Mrs Ley, Ms Livermore, Mr McArthur, Mr Mossfield, Mr Schultz, Mr Secker.

Current inquiry:

Commercial regional aviation services in Australia and transport links to major populated islands.

Joint Statutory

ASIO, ASIS AND DSD: Mr Jull (*Chair*), Mr Beazley, Mr McArthur, Mr McLeay, Senator Ferguson, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator Ray.

BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS: The Speaker (*Chair*), The President, Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Mr Lindsay, Ms J. S. McFarlane, Mr Price, Senator Ferris, Senator Stephens, Senator West.

CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES: Mr Byrne, Mr Ciobo, Mr Griffin, Mr Hunt, Mr McArthur, Senator Brandis, Senator Chapman, Senator Conroy, Senator Cooney, Senator Murray, Senator Wong.

Current inquiry:

Level of banking and financial services in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia.

NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY: Mr Baird (*Chair*), Mr Dutton, Mr Kerr, Mr Sercombe, Mr C. P. Thompson, Senator Denman, Senator Ferris, Senator Greig, Senator Hutchins, Senator McGauran.

NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND: Mr Cobb, Dr Lawrence, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Secker, Mr Snowdon, Senator Crossin, Senator Lees, Senator McLucas, Senator Scullion.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT: Mr Charles (*Chair*), Mr Ciobo, Mr Cobb, Mr Georgiou, Ms Grierson, Mr Griffin, Ms C. F. King, Mr P. E. King, Ms Plibersek, Mr Somlyay, Senator Colbeck, Senator Crowley, Senator Hogg, Senator Moore, Senator Murray, Senator Scullion, Senator Watson.

Current inquiries:

Australia's quarantine function.

Independent auditing by registered company auditors.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mrs Moylan (*Chair*), Mr Jenkins, Mr Lindsay, Mr Lloyd, Mr B. P. J. O'Connor, Mr Ripoll, Senator Colbeck, Senator Ferguson, Senator Forshaw.

Current inquiries:

Katherine, NT—Perimeter security fence, RAAF Base Tindal.

Newcastle—Stage 1 Redevelopment and facilities for the Airborne Early Warning and Control Aircraft, RAAF Base Williamtown.

Joint Standing

ELECTORAL MATTERS (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Mr Georgiou (*Chair*), Mr Danby, Mr Forrest, Mrs Ley, Mr Melham, Senator Bartlett, Senator Brandis, Senator Mason, Senator Murray, Senator Ray.

Current inquiries:

Conduct of the 2001 Federal election.

Integrity of the Electoral Roll.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Mr Baird, Mr Baldwin, Mr Beazley, Mr Bevis, Mr Brereton, Mr Edwards, Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mrs Gash, Mr Hawker, Mr Jull, Mr Lindsay, Mrs Moylan, Mr Nairn, Mr Price, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Snowdon, Mr Somlyay, Mr C. P. Thompson, Senator Bartlett, Senator Bolkus, Senator Bourne, Senator Cook, Senator Eggleston, Senator Evans, Senator Gibbs, Senator Harradine, Senator Hutchins, Senator Johnston, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator O'Brien, Senator Payne, Senator Schacht.

Current inquiries:

Annual reports within the Foreign Affairs portfolio.

Australia's maritime strategy.

Australia's role in the United Nations.

Australia's role in the World Trade Organisation.

Department of Defence 2000-2001 annual report.

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

Relations with Indonesia.

Trade and investment relations with the countries of Central Europe

Watching brief on the War on Terrorism.

MIGRATION (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Ms Gambaro (*Chair*), Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mrs Gash, Mrs Irwin, Mr Randall, Mr Ripoll, Senator Bartlett, Senator Eggleston, Senator Kirk, Senator Tchen.

Current inquiry:

Australia's migration and temporary entry program for skilled labour.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Ms Ellis, Mr Johnson, Mr Neville, Mr Snowdon, Mr C. P. Thompson, Senator Crossin, Senator Greig, Senator Lundy, Senator Scullion.

TREATIES (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Ms J. I. Bishop (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Bartlett, Mr Ciobo, Mr Evans, Mr Hunt, Mr P. E. King, Mr Scott, Mr Wilkie, Senator Barnett, Senator Bartlett, Senator Cooney, Senator Kirk, Senator Marshall, Senator Mason, Senator Schacht, Senator Stephens, Senator Tchen.

APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES: Mr Somlyay (*appointed 15 May 2002, for a period of 3 years*).

COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA: Mr M. J. Ferguson (*elected 21 August 2002, for a period of 3 years*).

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