

2002-2003

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 69

TUESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2003

*The House meets this day at 2 p.m.***GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****Orders of the day**

- 1 **SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT (PREGNANCY AND WORK) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Ms Worth—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr McClelland, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst supporting the particular amendments proposed in the bill, the House calls on the Government to support all the legislative amendments and other actions necessary to give effect to the recommendations of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission in its report Pregnant and Productive: Its a right not a privilege to work while pregnant”.*
- 2 **CORPORATIONS AMENDMENT (REPAYMENT OF DIRECTORS' BONUSES) BILL 2002** (*Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 16 October 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 3 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (PROHIBITION OF COMPULSORY UNION FEES) BILL 2002 [NO. 2]** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 2002—Dr Lawrence*).
- *4 **CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- 5 **SNOWY HYDRO CORPORATISATION BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 6 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CONTRIBUTORY PARENTS MIGRATION SCHEME) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 December 2002—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- 7 **MIGRATION (VISA APPLICATION) CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 December 2002—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- 8 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 7) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 23 October 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 9 **NATIONAL BLOOD AUTHORITY BILL 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 10 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 2002—Dr Lawrence*).
- 11 **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*).
- 12 **MARITIME LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Edwards*).

* 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.

- *13 **AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY CHEMICALS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 14 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (SECRET BALLOTS FOR PROTECTED ACTION) BILL 2002 [NO. 2]** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 November 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 15 **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*).
- 16 **HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT (DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING, RADIATION ONCOLOGY AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- *17 **NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (CONSOLIDATION AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- *18 **NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (VENTURE CAPITAL DEFICIT TAX) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- 19 **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*).
- *20 **AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- *21 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FAMILY LAW) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 22 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2002-2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Griffin*).
- 23 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2002-2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Griffin*).
- 24 **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*).
- 25 **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*).
- 26 **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*).
- *27 **MEDICAL INDEMNITY (PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION AND PRODUCT STANDARDS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- *28 **MEDICAL INDEMNITY (PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION AND PRODUCT STANDARDS) (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 29 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 8) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 December 2002—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- 30 **VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 December 2002—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- 31 **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*).

- *32 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (TERRORISM) BILL 2002** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- *33 **TERRORISM INSURANCE BILL 2002** (*Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- *34 **CORPORATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- *35 **CORPORATIONS (FEES) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- *36 **CORPORATIONS (REVIEW FEES) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- 37 **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*).
- 38 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 November 2002—Mr Melham*).
- *39 **WHEAT MARKETING AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 40 **DESIGNS BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 41 **DESIGNS (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- *42 **SUPERANNUATION INDUSTRY (SUPERVISION) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Trade*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- *43 **SUPERANNUATION (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- 44 **MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 19 September 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 45 **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*).
- 46 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (CHOICE IN AWARD COVERAGE) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 November 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 47 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (AWARD SIMPLIFICATION) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 November 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 48 **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*).
- *49 **COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL AMENDMENT (MEMBERS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES) BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- *50 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PROTECTED INFORMATION) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- *51 **NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- *52 **NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 53 **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*).

- 54 **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*).
- 55 **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*).
- *56 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (FAIR TERMINATION) BILL 2002**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).
- *57 **RENEWABLE ENERGY (ELECTRICITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2002**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).
- *58 **INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF TAXATION BILL 2002**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).
- *59 **PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (EARLIER ACCESS TO FARM MANAGEMENT DEPOSITS) BILL 2002—CORRECTIONS TO EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Tuckey—That the House take note of the paper.
- 61 **EXPORT MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANTS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 10 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 62 **NATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT COMMISSION—ERRATUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 10 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 63 **AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE—DATA-MATCHING PROGRAM—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 64 **STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) ACT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 4 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 65 **MANAGING MIGRATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Ruddock*) on the motion of Mr Williams—That the House take note of the paper.
- 66 **OFFICE OF THE EMPLOYMENT ADVOCATE—ERRATUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 67 **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 68 **MID-YEAR ECONOMIC REVIEW AND FISCAL OUTLOOK 2002-2003—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 69 **CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—2001-2002—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 70 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGEING—ERRATUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 71 **HEALTH SERVICES AUSTRALIA—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 72 **MEDIBANK PRIVATE—STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT 2002-2005—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.

- 73 **COMPANIES AUDITORS AND LIQUIDATORS DISCIPLINARY BOARD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 74 **OFFICE OF THE EMPLOYMENT ADVOCATE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 75 **COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 76 **ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 October 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 77 **DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—REPORT—VOLUME 1—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 October 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 78 **DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—REPORT—VOLUME 2—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 October 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 79 **SOCIAL SECURITY APPEALS TRIBUNAL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 October 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 80 **CENTRELINK—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 October 2002—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 81 **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.
- 82 **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*).
 Customs Tariff Proposals No. 3 (2002)—*moved 16 September 2002*—Resumption of debate (*Mr K. J. Thomson*).
 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*).
 Excise Tariff Proposal No. 4 (2002)—*moved 16 September 2002*—Resumption of debate (*Mr K. J. Thomson*).
- 83 **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

Orders of the day

- 1 **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 the next sitting Monday after 10 February 2003.*)
- 2 **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 the next sitting Monday after 10 February 2003.*)
- 3 **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 the next sitting Monday after 10 February 2003.*)
- 4 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—PAPER—PROPOSED REVISED STANDING ORDERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 September 2002—Mr Price, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Price—That the House take note of the paper. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 5 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT 391—REVIEW OF INDEPENDENT AUDITING BY REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITORS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 September 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 2 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 6 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ANNUAL REPORTS 2000-2001—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 September 2002—Mr Jull, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Jull—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 7 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 2000-2001—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 September 2002—Mr Hawker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 8 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PLANNING, PREPARING AND PROFITING FROM TRADE AND INVESTMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 October 2002—Mr Baird, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Baird—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 10 February 2003.*)
- 9 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON WATCHING BRIEF ON TERRORISM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 October 2002—Mr Jull, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Jull—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 10 **NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON DRAFT AMENDMENT 39 OF NATIONAL CAPITAL PLAN—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 October 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 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 11 **COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON WIRELESS BROADBAND TECHNOLOGIES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 2002—Mr Pyne, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—

That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

- 12 **ELECTORAL MATTERS—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON INTEGRITY OF ELECTORAL ROLL—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 2002—Mr Georgiou, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Georgiou—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 10 February 2003.*)
- 13 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—49TH REPORT—TIMOR SEA TREATY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 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 10 February 2003.*)
- 14 **ASIO, ASIS AND DSD—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT FOR 2001-2002—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 2002—Mr Jull, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Jull—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 15 **TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ASPECTS OF INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 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 10 February 2003.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices given for Tuesday, 4 February 2003

- *1 **MRS CROSIO:** To move—That this House calls on the Government to:
- (1) sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), considering 75 states have signed the Optional Protocol, and of those 75 states, 47 have ratified the Optional Protocol;
 - (2) actively seek membership of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), of which Australia was a member from 1983 until 1990, and again from 1993 until 1996;
 - (3) ratify the revision of the Maternity Protection Convention (ILO No. 183), dated June 2000, which called for a minimum of 14 weeks paid maternity leave; and
 - (4) as a priority, establish a system of paid maternity leave for all Australian working women. (*Notice given 12 December 2002.*)
- *2 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To move—That this House:
- (1) expresses its sympathy to the McCabe children, who lost their mother to lung cancer and their father to a heart attack;
 - (2) notes that before her death Mrs McCabe was the first Australian to win a court case against a major tobacco company for causing lung cancer;
 - (3) notes that the tobacco company—British American Tobacco Australia—has won legal action to have the case overturned, and despite the fact the McCabe children have repaid the money and agreed to pay \$27,500 in interest, will pursue them for many millions of dollars of legal costs;
 - (4) notes that the children may have to sell their \$180,000 home to pay the legal costs;
 - (5) calls on British American Tobacco Australia to withdraw its claim for legal costs; and
 - (6) calls on tobacco companies to cease their unprincipled tactics to recruit new smokers. (*Notice given 12 December 2002.*)
- *3 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that the percentage of Australian children who are overweight or obese is increasing; and
 - (2) commits itself to promoting measures to increase fitness and encourage healthy lifestyles. (*Notice given 13 December 2002, a.m.*)

- *4 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the plans of Airservices Australia to remove air traffic controllers from Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport and consolidate terminal control units at Sydney, Perth and Adelaide into Airservices Australia's centre in Melbourne;
 - (2) is concerned that no proper safety case has yet been prepared; and
 - (3) is concerned about the loss of local knowledge caused by the transfer of air traffic controllers to an interstate location. (*Notice given 13 December 2002, a.m.*)
- *5 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the importance of breastfeeding for the health of babies and children; and
 - (2) notes the responsibility that governments, the community and employers have to facilitate and encourage breastfeeding. (*Notice given 13 December 2002, a.m.*)
- *6 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To move—That this House notes with concern that there is strong evidence that there are Australian citizens who have committed war crimes overseas. (*Notice given 13 December 2002, a.m.*)

Notices

- 1 **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 10 February 2003.*)
- 2 **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 10 February 2003.*)

3 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 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

4 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 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 5 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 94 to read as follows:

Closure of Member

94 A motion may be made that a Member who is speaking, except a Member giving a notice of motion or formally moving the terms of a motion allowed under the standing orders or speaking to a motion of dissent (from any ruling of the Speaker under standing order 100), “be not further heard”, and such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

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

Presentation of petitions

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

- (a) in respect of each petition, the petitioner, or one of the petitioners, may present the petition to the House by standing at the Bar of the House and reading to the House the prayer of the petition, and
- (b) where a petitioner is not able to present the petition in accordance with paragraph (a) of this standing order, the Member who has lodged the petition may present it to the House by reading to the House the prayer of the petition. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

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

Questions to committee chairs

143A Questions may be put to a Member in his or her capacity as Chair of a committee of the House, or of a joint committee, in connection with the work or duties of the committee in question. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

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

Questions without notice—Time limits

145A During question time:

- (a) the asking of each question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each question may not exceed 4 minutes;
- (b) the asking of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute; and
- (c) the time taken to make and determine points of order is not to be regarded as part of the time for questions and answers. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

- 9 **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 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 10 **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 dated 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 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 11 **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:
- (a) shall be concise and confined to the subject matter of the question;
- (b) 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
- (c) 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 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 12 **MR PEARCE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the importance and value of all children learning music as part of their school education;
- (2) appreciates how the learning of music can provide additional benefits to a child's overall academic and educational development;
- (3) acknowledges the significant contribution and effort that people from all walks of life make to their local communities through music and arts initiatives, particularly those that support our youth;
- (4) recognises the positive link between the wellbeing of our youth and their appreciation and active participation in music activities; and
- (5) calls on the Government through the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) to actively support and encourage:
- (a) an increased presence and heightened importance of learning music within the various education curricula throughout Australia; and
- (b) an increase in funding for school music education programs from respective State and Territory governments. (*Notice given 23 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 13 **MR ALBANESE:** To move—That the House recognises that no holder of a public office in Australia should be above parliamentary scrutiny and as such standing order 74 should be amended to allow the performance of the highest office in the nation, the Governor-General, to be debated by the democratically elected Members of the House of Representatives. (*Notice given 11 November 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

14 MS GILLARD: To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the historic action of the Holt Government, with bipartisan support from the Australian Labor Party, in initiating the dismantling of the White Australia Policy;
- (2) recognises that since 1973, successive Labor and Liberal/National Party Governments have, with bipartisan support, pursued a racially non-discriminatory immigration policy to the overwhelming national, and international, benefit of Australia; and
- (3) gives its unambiguous and unqualified commitment to the principle that, whatever criteria are applied by Australian Governments in exercising their sovereign right to determine the composition of the immigration intake, race or ethnic origin shall never, explicitly or implicitly, be among them. (*Notice given 11 November 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

15 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 November 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

16 MR JOHNSON To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises and celebrates 30 years of diplomatic relations between Australia and the People's Republic of China;
- (2) acknowledges the critical importance and value of the Australia-China relationship in the broad Asia-Pacific region; and
- (3) confirms Australia's support of the "One-China" policy. (*Notice given 2 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

17 MR SCHULTZ: To move—That, this year being the 50th anniversary of an historic event which led to the early development of the giant Pilbara iron ore discovery in Western Australia, this House:

- (1) calls on the Government to recognise the memorable flight on 22 November 1952, when Lang Hancock observed vast iron ore deposits in The Pilbara whilst flying in adverse weather accompanied by his wife Hope;
- (2) acknowledges the significant personal contribution Lang Hancock made in difficult circumstances in developing the mineral potential of this incredibly rich province – The Pilbara; and
- (3) pays tribute to this great Australian pioneer, who against all odds proved that if you have the vision you can achieve the impossible against seemingly insurmountable odds. (*Notice given 2 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

18 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 act immediately to honour its election commitment regarding university status for the College. (*Notice given 2 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

19 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 2 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

- 20 **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 2 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 21 **MS C. F. KING:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises that the battle at the Eureka Stockade represents a turning point in Australia’s development as a nation, especially in the right of people to have a say in how we are governed;
 - (2) notes that it is 148 years since this important battle took place;
 - (3) recognises that the Eureka Flag remains an important symbol of the development of democratic government in Australia; and
 - (4) calls on the Government to take steps to have the Eureka Flag proclaimed as an official flag of Australia under the provisions of the *Flags Act 1953*. (*Notice given 3 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 22 **MR KERR:** To move—That this House conveys to the Ambassador of the United States of America its:
- (1) concern at the ongoing detention, without charge or trial, of two Australian citizens in Guantanamo Bay; and
 - (2) request that the United States of America advises what processes will be put in place to allow the detained Australians to be put on trial or to be released. (*Notice given 4 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 23 **MS C. F. KING:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the importance of the Western Highway to the economic well-being of the towns and cities along the highway;
 - (2) recognises that traffic congestion has increased with the development of housing estates at Deer Park, Burnside and Caroline Springs;
 - (3) acknowledges that the Western Highway has suffered from sustained financial neglect that has in turn compromised the safety and integrity of the road;
 - (4) further acknowledges that since 1998 there has been a total of 543 collisions on the Ballarat Highway between Anthony’s Cutting and the Western Ring Road with 14 resulting in fatalities and 254 collisions resulting in serious injuries; and
 - (5) calls on the Government to take steps to upgrade the Western Highway, including a commitment to the freeway standard link between the Western Highway and the Western Ring Road (Deer Park Bypass). (*Notice given 9 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 24 **MS HALL:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the Government’s failure to deliver employment services that meet the needs of long term unemployed people; and
 - (2) notes the ineffectiveness of the Job Network in assisting the long term unemployed re-enter the workforce. (*Notice given 9 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 25 **MS HALL:** To move—That this House calls on the Government to:
- (1) address the rapid decline in bulk billing;
 - (2) ensure an equal distribution of, and access to, health services for all Australians; and
 - (3) ensure that quality health care is available to all Australians, not only those who can afford it. (*Notice given 9 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 26 **MS HALL:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises that Australia has an ageing population; and
 - (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) address the chronic shortage of aged care beds;

- (b) resolve the issues surrounding phantom beds;
- (c) provide more community care packages;
- (d) ensure that aged care resources are located in areas of greatest need; and
- (e) provide positive initiatives to improve the quality of life of older Australians. (*Notice given 9 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

27 **MS HALL:** To move—That this House calls on the Government to:

- (1) recognise the special needs of persons suffering from Acquired Brain Injury (ABI);
- (2) provide disability specific services that recognise the special needs of people suffering from ABI; and
- (3) introduce programs specifically designed to meet the needs of people suffering from ABI. (*Notice given 9 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

28 **MR BAIRD:** To move—That this House:

- (1) takes note of recent progress towards a Free Trade Agreement with the United States of America;
- (2) welcomes the increased opportunities the agreement will bring to Australia and Australian producers;
- (3) congratulates the Government on the significant achievement of bringing this initiative closer to reality; and
- (4) continues to place priority on working to negotiate free trade agreements that compliment the work of the WTO and APEC. (*Notice given 11 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

Orders of the day

1 **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 10 February 2003.*)
- 2 **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 10 February 2003.*)
- 3 **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 10 February 2003.*)
- 4 **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 10 February 2003.*)
- 5 **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 the next sitting Monday after 10 February 2003.*)
- 6 **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 the next sitting Monday after 10 February 2003.*)
- 7 **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 the next sitting Monday after 10 February 2003.*)
- 8 **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 the next sitting Monday after 10 February 2003.*)
- 9 **TOBACCO EXCISE WINDFALL RECOVERY (ASSESSMENT) BILL 2002** (*Mr S. F. Smith*): Second reading (*from 16 September 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 10 February 2003.*)
- 10 **BROADBAND SERVICES:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 September 2002—Mr Hunt, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Mossfield—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
- (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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 11 **ADHESIVE ARACHNOIDITIS:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 September 2002*) on the motion of Ms George—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 12 **TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT (PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE) BILL 2002** (*Mr McMullan*): Second reading (*from 23 September 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 13 **TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT (CREDIT CARD REFORM) BILL 2002** (*Mr Griffin*): Second reading (*from 23 September 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 14 **DROUGHT:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 September 2002—Mr Gibbons, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Cobb—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 15 **CORPORATIONS AMENDMENT (IMPROVING CORPORATE GOVERNANCE) BILL 2002** (*Mr Crean*): Second reading (*from 23 September 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 16 **ETHNIC COMMUNITY BROADCASTING:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 September 2002*) on the motion of Ms Vamvakinou—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 17 **TOURISM INDUSTRY:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 September 2002*) on the motion of Mrs Gash—That this House:
- (1) recognises the positive contribution of this Government in encouraging the tourism industry in Australia;
- (2) notes the impact of external factors on the local industry;
- (3) recognises the contribution of local and regional tourism to the national economy;
- (4) acknowledges the important role of local and regional tourism in providing employment opportunities for young people; and
- (5) recognises the need for more equitable dismissal laws for small business to ensure greater employment opportunities are made available by employers in the tourism industry. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 18 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (EMERGENCY SERVICES) BILL 2002** (*Mr Crean*): Second reading (*from 21 October 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 19 **PLASTIC BAG LEVY (ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION) BILL 2002** (*Mr Andren*): Second reading (*from 21 October 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 20 **PLASTIC BAG (MINIMISATION OF USAGE) EDUCATION FUND BILL 2002** (*Mr Andren*): Second reading (*from 21 October 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 21 **FUEL QUALITY STANDARDS (RENEWABLE CONTENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Mr Katter*): Second reading (*from 21 October 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 22 **HUMAN RIGHTS IN NIGERIA:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 October 2002*) on the motion of Mr Baird—That this House:
- (1) condemns the sentencing of Amina Lawal to death by stoning by Shari'ah Courts in the Katsina province of Nigeria, for allegedly committing adultery and bearing a child out of wedlock;
- (2) registers its strong opposition to all similar extreme sentences that discriminate against women; and
- (3) calls on the Government of Nigeria to do everything within its power to protect the basic human rights of Amina Lawal and all its citizens. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 23 **YOUNG PEOPLE:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 2002—Mr Gibbons, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Mossfield—That this House:
- (1) recognises that:
- (a) young people have a diversity of talent and can provide a fresh insight into the creative industries;
- (b) there is a need for positive promotion of young people and their achievements;
- (c) young people wish to advance themselves by utilising work placement and work experience programs; and
- (d) young people are willing to promote and enhance positive programs on a range of issues such as multiculturalism, education, the environment and social justice issues, including asylum seekers; and
- (2) urges the Government to:
- (a) organise a collaborative effort by schools in local areas to provide the opportunity for students to audition, take part in and display their individual talents in a musical performance, with the help of local sponsorship and government funding, to provide a professional opportunity for students in creative areas;

- (b) provide increased resources to support mechanisms to students in order to enhance educational opportunities and outcomes, including library facilities, syllabus management and student support infrastructure;
- (c) provide incentives to employers to encourage their participation in work experience and work placement programs and to address the public liability insurance issues that are threatening such programs; and
- (d) create youth sport and recreation facilities where young people can physically participate and interact with each other to promote better physical and mental well-being. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

24 DIABETES: Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 2002*) on the motion of Mrs Moylan—That this House:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the alarming rise in the number of people with Type 2 Diabetes estimated to be 1 million, with half of those people currently undiagnosed;
 - (b) according to a recent landmark study by Diab Cost Australia Type 2 Diabetes is costing Australians a staggering \$3 billion a year with the bill for each person averaging nearly \$11,000 in expenditure and benefits;
 - (c) according to the study, as the complications of diabetes increase, the costs per person are estimated to escalate from \$4,020 to \$9,625 when there are both microvascular and macrovascular problems;
 - (d) early detection through screening programs and action to slow or prevent the onset of complications will see reductions in health costs and improve and maintain quality of life for individuals with Type 2 Diabetes; and
 - (e) the contribution this landmark study conducted by Associate Professor Stephen Colaguiuri of Diab Cost Australia will make to better informing Government and the public of a significant public health problem;
- (2) congratulates the Federal Government for the emphasis it has placed on public awareness programs in relation to Type 2 Diabetes; and
- (3) urges the Government to:
 - (a) continue programs to raise public awareness of the high risk of undiagnosed and untreated cases of Type 2 Diabetes and ensure access to appropriate screening;
 - (b) support access to new medications for the treatment of Type 2 Diabetes while ensuring that Australian taxpayers get value for money through appropriate pricing arrangements;
 - (c) continue to encourage people diagnosed with diabetes to undergo regular medical test including eye testing so as to prevent complications;
 - (d) ensure adequate funding for further research into prevention and treatment of Type 2 Diabetes; and
 - (e) develop a strong education program encouraging appropriate diet and exercise regimes to minimise the risk of Type 2 Diabetes. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

25 ISRAEL AND PALESTINE: Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 2002—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms Irwin—That this House:

- (1) notes the continued occupation by the State of Israel of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in contravention of United Nations Resolution 242 passed on 22 November 1967;
- (2) supports the right of Israel to exist within secure borders;
- (3) calls on the United Nations to insert a peace keeping force into the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza and the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces;
- (4) calls for the recognition of the State of Palestine based on the pre 1967 borders of the West Bank and Gaza; and
- (5) calls on the international community to encourage and support the resolution of outstanding differences between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine based on the Oslo and Camp David Agreements. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

- 26 **CREDIT UNIONS:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 2002*) on the motion of Mr Neville—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 27 **NEW ENGLAND HIGHWAY:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 2002—Ms Hoare, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Baldwin—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 28 **YOUTH SUICIDE:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 2002*) on the motion of Ms Vamvakinou—That this House:
- (1) recognises that youth suicide is becoming an increasing cause of death amongst young people with youth suicide figures in 2000 at 2,363 with 1,860 of those males;
 - (2) recognises that the youth suicide rates for males and indigenous people, particularly in rural areas, are amongst the highest in the western world and that males are three times more likely to complete a suicide attempt;
 - (3) recognises that admissions to hospitals for intentional self-injury are close to 10 times as common as fatalities for suicide, with males more likely to take far more drastic suicide methods;
 - (4) recognises there is a role for families, education, role models and health workers in identifying and supporting young people at risk of depression and self-harm;
 - (5) notes *The Sydney Morning Herald* 7 February 2002 article regarding government alarm on suicides rates with the Minister for Youth Affairs stating that "*Australia is losing the war against youth suicide and needs a fresh approach.*"; and
 - (6) calls on the Government to implement further measures to lower the rate of juvenile depression and youth suicide. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 29 **GOVERNOR-GENERAL AMENDMENT BILL 2002 (Mr Albanese):** Second reading (*from 9 December 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 10 February 2003.*)
- 30 **FOREIGN CREWED VESSELS:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 2002*) on the motion of Ms O'Byrne—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;
 - (2) calls upon the Government to act immediately to review the current security arrangements in relation to foreign seafarers; and
 - (3) further notes the threats posed to our coastal environment by flag of convenience vessels. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 31 **OPERATION JAYWICK—COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ISSUE:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 2002*) on the motion of Mr Lloyd—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the service and bravery of all Australian veterans involved with the Z Special Unit Forces, including Operation Jaywick during WWII;
 - (2) notes:
 - (a) the upcoming 60th anniversary of Operation Jaywick on 26-27 September 2003;
 - (b) Australia Post's successful and popular policy of producing special issue commemorative stamps; and
 - (c) Australia Post's policy to recognise only anniversaries of 50 years or multiples of 50 years in such commemorative stamp issues; and
 - (3) urges Australia Post to review this policy to enable the issue of a 60th anniversary commemorative stamp series in honour of the veterans of Operation Jaywick. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)
- 32 **INSTITUTIONALISED CHILDREN:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 2002*) on the motion of Mrs Irwin—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the ongoing effects of emotional deprivation suffered by children placed in institutions prior to the mid 1970s;
 - (2) applauds the public exposure of the misguided policies under which British migrant children and the “stolen generation” of indigenous children were treated and the effects of their treatment in children’s institutions evident in adulthood;
 - (3) recognises that Australian children raised in institutions were denied love and affection, that they were separated from siblings, subjected to harsh discipline and suffered physical and sexual abuse;
 - (4) recognises that they were conditioned to perform manual work rather than to pursue higher education or develop high level skills and that they were subjected to a deliberate policy to erase any awareness of their biological parents and family; and
 - (5) calls on the Government to facilitate the full disclosure of the forgotten history of institutionalised children and to respond to the present needs of those generations still suffering the effects of their time in children’s institutions. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 10 February 2003.*)

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

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

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

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

- 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.
- 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

15 May 2002

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

5 June 2002

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.

18 June 2002

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.

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.

24 June 2002

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

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

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.

19 August 2002

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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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.

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. 735 - 760)—

- (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.

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

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

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

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

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.

20 August 2002

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.

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.

MR M. J. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 798 - 823)—

- (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.

798 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer.

815 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport.

823 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

22 August 2002

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.

26 August 2002

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.

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.

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.

28 August 2002

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.

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.

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.

16 September 2002

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.

915 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (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.

19 September 2002

937 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What mechanisms, if any, has the Minister put in place to ensure that employers comply with their obligations under the Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act.
- (2) Is employer non-compliance with the Act a serious issue for many Australians trying to plan for their retirement; if not, why not.
- (3) Has the current system of self-assessment resulted in an estimated 28%, or 216,000, of the 800,000 employers not paying their employees' superannuation guarantee contributions correctly.
- (4) Did the Minister send a letter dated 24th July 2002 to me regarding a Hasluck constituent, Ms J Baker; if so, is the situation in which Ms J Baker finds herself, where her employer has underpaid her superannuation guarantee from 1997 to 2001, unacceptable.
- (5) Does the Howard Government's current system of self-assessment allow employers to continue to underpay or not pay superannuation guarantee contributions; if not, why not.
- (6) Why are workers unable to access information about their employer's non-payment of superannuation monies from the Australian Taxation Office.
- (7) Why are employers who have not met their obligations under the Act protected under section 45 of the Act.

24 September 2002

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

- (1) What steps will the Government be taking to educate accident victims of the new taxation treatment and benefits of structured settlements once the Government's reforms on structured settlements become law.
- (2) What sum is the Government setting aside to run an education campaign for accident victims in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004 and (c) 2004-2005.

25 September 2002

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

- (1) How many Australian families have claimed the Baby Bonus.
- (2) How many Australian families have claimed the Baby Bonus and have been rejected for not meeting the eligibility criteria.
- (3) What were the major grounds for rejection in these cases.
- (4) Are families who had their first child on 29 or 30 June 2002 ineligible for the bonus; if so, (a) how is it fair that transitional arrangements exist for families who already have children, while families who had their first child on 29 or 30 June 2002 miss out on the bonus and (b) will the Government introduce any type of leeway for families in this situation.

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

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the media release circulated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia on 3 September 2002, which stated it had consulted for years with the Australian Taxation Office without seeing fundamental change, and still needed to be convinced that the latest commitment to change will be delivered with the necessary pace and priority.
- (2) If so; (a) what are the timelines for the initial priorities for attention outlined in the joint statement released by the Commissioner of Taxation and the Tax professional bodies on 3 September 2002, (b) how will the Government monitor and ensure these specific priorities are carried out in the timeframes agreed and (c) will the Minister provide the House with information and timeframes about the legislative measures the Government will introduce to address the compliance simplifications outlined in the joint statement.

26 September 2002

956 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many Defence Housing Authority (DHA) houses are there in each State and Territory.
- (2) How many DHA houses are located (a) on defence bases and (b) in the general community in each State and Territory.
- (3) Are any houses located on defence bases privately owned; if so, where are these located.
- (4) If quality of housing is not an issue, what are the main issues in separation rates from the Australian Defence Force.
- (5) How many DHA homes have been classified as being below community standards in 2002-2003.
- (6) Where are these houses located.
- (7) How many are located on defence bases.
- (8) How many are (a) privately owned and (b) leased.
- (9) What strategies does DHA have to address the issues related to these sub-standard houses.
- (10) What are the locations of the 15 major regional DHA offices and the 12 outpost offices.
- (11) What are the current average stock vacancy times and what is that figure for each of the past 5 years.
- (12) What were the causes of delays of rental allowances for single members and what steps have been introduced to address those delays.
- (13) What are the terms of reference for the review of singles accommodation.
- (14) Who is conducting the review and when will it be concluded.
- (15) How many houses does DHA plan to sell, or has already sold, on a lease back arrangement over (a) 2002-2003 and (b) 2003-2004 and what in which States and Territories are these houses located.

- (16) What will be the total DHA owned stock at the end of the Sale and Leaseback Program and what will be the State and Territory breakdown of this stock.

14 October 2002

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 607 (*Hansard*, 23 September 2002, page 6799), who advised him in his answer.
- (2) Further to the answer to part (7) of question No. 607, when will Modes 6A and 8 be incorporated as part of the modes at Sydney Airport.
- (3) Is he being advised that the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) is all but ticked off in terms of substantial implementation of the Plan.
- (4) Is it still the best advice of Airservices Australia that the LTOP is substantially implemented even though he has repeatedly advised me that the aircraft movement target of 17% of aircraft movements to the north has never once been reached since the LTOP was first introduced.
- (5) Who is responsible for advising him that the LTOP is substantially implemented.
- (6) Since aircraft movements to the north of Sydney Airport have been consistently well above the LTOP target of 17% of all aircraft movements to the north of the airport, is the advice of Airservices Australia that the LTOP is substantial implemented, incorrect untrue; if not, why not.
- (7) Does the LTOP have a project plan; if so, will he provide the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) with a copy of the plan; if not, why not.
- (8) Will he draw to the attention of the Chair of the SACF my repeated motions moved during my four years as a member of SACF, calling for, inter alia, a project plan and project schedule for the forward projection estimate of the full implementation and date of completion of the LTOP; if so, when will he do this; if not, why not.
- (9) On what date will the LTOP target of 17% of aircraft movements to the north be reached.
- (10) When can he say the LTOP will be fully implemented; if not, why not.
- (11) When will Mode 6A become operational.
- (12) When will Mode 8 become operational.
- (13) What impact will the Trident and High and Wide systems have on the ability of Airservices Australia to reach the LTOP target of 17% movements to the north.
- (14) What impact has the Precision Runway Monitor system had on the ability of Airservices Australia to fully achieve the LTOP targets of aircraft movements to the north, south, east and west.
- (15) Has the LTOP target of 17% movements to the north of Sydney Airport never once been met.

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

- (1) In his responses to question No. 610 (*Hansard*, 23 September 2002, page 6800), question No. 611 (*Hansard*, 23 September 2002, page 6801) and question No. 629 (*Hansard*, 23 September 2002, page 6802) and his statements that he has dealt with the matters exhaustively, is it a fact that he has never given a direct answer to these or similar questions on the current stage of development of the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) nor a direct answer to the question of when the projected full implementation date of that Plan is to occur.
- (2) Is it in the public interest that the public have a right to know when the LTOP targets of aircraft movements to the north will be fully implemented, if not, why not.
- (3) When will the other LTOP targets be fully implemented.
- (4) In respect to the answer to part (9) of question No. 610, can he say who has portfolio responsibility for the question of whether 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; if not, why not.
- (5) Further to the answer to part (10) of question No. 610, (a) what undertakings has the Southern Cross Consortium given the Commonwealth Government with respect to NSW State environmental laws, (b) what environmental undertakings did he require of the new owners of Sydney Airport with respect to compliance issues of NSW environmental, planning and development and pollution laws; if he did not require such undertakings, why were no contractual or other requirements made prior to

the sale of Sydney Airport and (c) are NSW State environmental, planning and development and pollution laws an intrinsic part of the total environmental laws of any land in NSW, whether that interest be Commonwealth, State or other land interests; if not, why not.

- (6) Further to the answers to parts (5) and (7) of question No. 611 concerning the Sydney Airport railway system, (a) does he have an interest in the railway passenger usage to and from Sydney Airport; if not, why not, (b) is he being advised of Sydney Airport railway utilisation to and from Sydney Airport; if so, what data is being made available to him from NSW State Rail; if he is not receiving data on railway utilisation, why is he as Minister for Transport and Regional Services not interested in the statistical utilisation of this critical mode of transport, (c) what is his real interest in passenger movements as part of the overall environmental operation of Sydney Airport, including whether it includes (i) cars and vehicles, (ii) trains, (iii) aircraft or (iv) a combination of these.
- (7) What is the new airport owners' political responsibility towards the minimisation of pollution of all kinds from Sydney Airport utilisation, including (a) greenhouse gas emissions either directly from the Airport or from transport related movements using Sydney Airport, (b) maximisation of public transport to and from Sydney Airport, (c) minimisation of pollution and traffic generation to and from Sydney Airport, (d) noise pollution from traffic of all kinds to and from Sydney Airport, (e) air pollution from traffic of all kinds to and from Sydney Airport, (f) water pollution from all sources emanating from Sydney Airport usage, (g) soil pollution from all sources emanating on or around Sydney Airport.

15 October 2002

993 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many properties owned or leased by the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) are vacant and have been for over 2 months, and what is the State and Territory breakdown for this figure.
- (2) How many properties owned or leased by the DHA are vacant and have been for (a) up to 2 months, (b) up to 4 months, (c) up to 6 months, (d) up to 8 months, (e) up to 10 months, (f) up to 12 months and (g) over 12 months.
- (3) What is the cost to taxpayers each year for properties that remain vacant for (a) up to 2 months, (b) up to 4 months, (c) up to 6 months, (d) up to 8 months, (e) up to 10 months, (f) up to 12 months and (g) over 12 months.
- (4) How many properties are leased to non defence personnel and what is the State and Territory breakdown for this figure.
- (5) What is the Government's policy on renting DHA properties to non defence personnel.
- (6) How many defence personnel are in privately rented accommodation and are receiving rent subsidies, and what is the State and Territory breakdown for this figure.
- (7) Why are defence personnel paid subsidised rent when there are vacant DHA properties available.

16 October 2002

1000 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Has the Government placed advertisements in newspapers Australia-wide advising recipients of payments like Newstart allowance or Parenting Payment to let Centrelink know when their circumstances change in order to not only keep the social security system fair, but also so that they will not have to pay back any overpayments.
- (2) Were all individuals who provided Centrelink with up-to-date information on their personal details not asked to pay back any overpayments.
- (3) In 2001-2002 how many recipients of the Child Care Benefit were overpaid despite providing Centrelink with up-to-date and accurate information on their income.
- (4) In 2001-2002 how many recipients of the Child Care Benefit were overpaid but later received a waiver for the overpayment.

1003 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations' replies to part (4) of question No. 472 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5044) and part (3) of question No. 882 (*Hansard*, 15 October 2002, page 7623), was any Government supervision or scrutiny made of the sale of Traveland to Internova, in light of what now appears to be a commercial transaction involving the sale and transfer of a strategic national travel agency to a company that was *ab initio* fundamentally incapable of providing that service; if so, what supervision was undertaken; if not, why not.

MR McMULLAN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1006 - 1014)—Has the Minister's Department made payments to the national or State and Territory branches of the (a) Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, (b) Australian Industry Group, (c) National Farmers' Federation or (d) Business Council of Australia for consultancies, training and other purposes in (i) 1996-97, (ii) 1997-98, (iii) 1998-99, (iv) 1999-2000, (v) 2000-2001, (vi) 2001-2002 and (vii) 2002-2003 to date; if so, what sums and when.

1006 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Treasurer.

1014 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Attorney-General.

22 October 2002

1035 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Will he provide a list of all vessels issued with single or continuing voyage permits in the last five years, in each case including (a) the name of vessel, (b) the country of registration of the vessel, (c) the nationality of the crew, (d) the conditions on the permit, (e) the period for which the permit was issued or re-issued, (f) the cargo carried by the vessel and (g) whether any fare paying passengers were carried on the vessel.

1036 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What conditions were applicable on single and continuing voyage permits over the past five years.
- (2) Who determined those conditions.
- (3) Are the conditions standard for each permit or do they vary dependent on circumstances; if so, (a) what are those circumstances and (b) who determines and approves special conditions.
- (4) Who is responsible for monitoring adherence to those conditions and what is the penalty for breaches of those conditions.
- (5) Have any breaches or suspected breaches of the conditions been identified, if so, (a) by whom, (b) in relation to which vessel and (c) what was the outcome of that breach.
- (6) If a vessel or operator breaches a condition of a single or continuing voyage permit, is the vessel or operator precluded from being issued another permit; if not, why not.

1037 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Are copies of single and continuing voyage permits issued to foreign vessels to operate in the domestic transport freight task purportedly when Australian ships are not available, published on his Department's website or the Australian Maritime Safety Authority website; if not, why not.

1038 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For each of the last ten financial years what was the cost at (a) 1 July and (b) 1 January of each year of fees and taxes payable on a return airline ticket between (a) Melbourne and Sydney, (b) Brisbane and Sydney, (c) Melbourne and Brisbane, (d) Perth and Sydney, (e) Adelaide and Melbourne return, (f) Adelaide and Sydney, (g) Cairns and Sydney, (h) Cairns and Brisbane and (i) Darwin and Sydney.
- (2) For each instance, how did these fees and taxes compare to the cost of a full economy Qantas fare for that route.

1043 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) With respect to the Minister's Department and each agency for which the Minister is responsible, what is the total number of (a) male and (b) female staff.
- (2) In the Minister's Department and each agency, how many (a) male and (b) female staff are members of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme and how many of each gender have elected to pay additional superannuation contributions.
- (3) In the Minister's Department and each agency, how many (a) male and (b) female staff are members of the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme and how many of each gender have elected to pay (i) additional and (ii) reduced superannuation contributions.
- (4) In the Minister's Department and each agency, how many (a) male and (b) female staff have any other form of superannuation.

24 October 2002

1067 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has the vessel *CSL Pacific* been detained by port state control while sailing under a single or continuing voyage permit; if so, (a) when, (b) what were the reasons for the detention and (c) what was the outcome of the investigation, if any.

1068 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many vessels were on the Australian shipping register in each of the past ten years.
- (2) How many of the vessels removed from the Australian shipping register have subsequently been issued with a permit to return to the Australian coastal trade.
- (3) Does the use of Flag of Convenience shipping on the Australian coast increase the risk of a maritime security breach; if so, what measures has he taken since 11 September 2001 to mitigate that risk.

1069 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to evidence before the HIH Royal Commission concerning the role of Mr Malcolm Turnbull in the sale of FAI and the subsequent collapse of HIH.
- (2) Are office bearers of registered political parties in receipt of public funds under the Commonwealth Electoral Act required to be fit and proper persons; if so, are Mr Turnbull's actions consistent with this requirement.

11 November 2002

1079 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What has been the annual cost of the research and development (R&D) tax concession as reported in the Budget since 1996.
- (2) Do these official estimates of the tax concession's cost include the effect of higher personal income tax revenue as a result of companies distributing less dividend imputation credits.
- (3) If not, what has been the net cost of the R&D tax concession since 1996 once this additional revenue is taken into account.

1082 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Government aware of any dangers from the use of ethanol in petrol.
- (2) Does the use of ethanol blended petrol result in a greater possibility of corrosion to vehicle fuel tanks, underground storage tanks at service stations and fuel feed lines than it would with unblended petrol, when the proportion of ethanol is (a) greater and (b) less than 10%.
- (3) Does the use of ethanol blended petrol result in a greater possibility of contamination in and around service stations than it would with unblended petrol when the proportion of ethanol is (a) greater and (b) less than 10%.
- (4) Will Australian standards be changed to ensure that the use of ethanol blended petrol is safe.
- (5) Does ethanol blended petrol result in the blended fuel being a better conductor of electricity than unblended fuel when the proportion of ethanol is greater than 10%.
- (6) What proportion of service stations have storage tanks made of steel.

12 November 2002

1084 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—Has his Department taken legal proceedings against any employer as a result of engaging illegal immigrants as a cheap form of labour in the construction industry; if so, what are the circumstances in which those proceedings have been taken; if not, what, if any, other action has been taken by his Department to stop this practice.

1088 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—Has the Minister's Department implemented any policies or practices to assist employees to balance work and family responsibilities; if so what are those policies and or practices.

1107 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What is the methodology used by his Department to allocate migrant source countries to its four English Proficiency (EP) groups.
- (2) How many countries are currently included in each of the four EP groups.
- (3) For the period 1996-2001, how many family stream migrants in total were there in each EP group.
- (4) Under current policies, are family stream migrants from countries in EP groups 1 and 2 disregarded for the purposes of the settlement services target group.
- (5) At the time of the (a) 1996 and (b) 2001 Census, what proportion of recent arrivals from (i) Sri Lanka, (ii) Western Samoa, (iii) Pakistan, (iv) Tonga, (v) Bangladesh and (vi) Jordan were recorded as having good English proficiency.

- (6) For each country referred to in part (5), what was the total number of (a) permanent settlers and (b) family stream migrants over the period 1996-2001.
- (7) Has his Department reviewed the classification of migrant source countries into EP groups as a result of the findings of the 2001 Census; if so, which countries have had their EP classification changed; if not, what is the timetable for doing so

13 November 2002

1111 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 123 (*Hansard*, 23 May 2002, page 2854) concerning the Centenary of Federation and funds allocated for the work on the National Council and Secretariat, what sum was spent on (a) salaries and administrative expenses for the Secretariat and (b) sitting fees and travelling allowances for the National Council members.
- (2) What were the sitting fees and travelling allowances set by the Remuneration Tribunal for National Council members.
- (3) What were the dates of National Council meetings.

14 November 2002

1118 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What services are provided by private contractors to the Defence Signals Directorate.
- (2) For each contract, (a) when did it come into effect, (b) when is it due to expire and (c) who holds the contract.

1122 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Prime Minister—Has his attention been drawn to the assertion that claims made during the last election campaign that asylum seekers threw their children overboard were in breach of section 329 of the Commonwealth Electoral Act in that they deceived and misled electors prior to the casting of votes; if so, will the Government urge an investigation into possible breach of the law; if not, why not.

1127 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has he publicly advertised for a scoping study for the sale of the Sydney Basin airports known as Bankstown, Hoxton Park and Camden; if not, when will he commission the scoping study.
- (2) When does he expect to sell Bankstown, Hoxton Park and Camden Airports.
- (3) What impact on flight paths for Sydney Airport will result from the sale of Bankstown Airport.
- (4) Will the sale of Bankstown Airport result in an increase in both volume of air traffic movements and type of aircraft, including jet aircraft movements, from Bankstown Airport.
- (5) Is it foreshadowed that Bankstown Airport will be upgraded to allow aircraft movements of larger jet aircraft up to and including Boeing 737 class aircraft or equivalent.
- (6) Are the proposed alterations to arrivals and departure flight paths for Sydney Airport in line with the proposed introduction of High and Wide and Trident air movements systems, impacted by the foreshadowed sale of Bankstown Airport.
- (7) Are the flight path amendments to Sydney Airport impacted by commercial considerations as a result of the foreshadowed sale price of Bankstown Airport.

1137 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many National Service Medal applications have been received from applicants in the electoral division of Lowe.
- (2) How many National Service Medals have been awarded to applicants in the electoral division of Lowe.
- (3) What is the total number of National Service Medal applications currently outstanding.
- (4) How many National Service Medal applications received from the electoral division of Lowe are currently outstanding.
- (5) What steps has she taken to address the backlog of National Service Medal applications.
- (6) When will the backlog of applications for National Service Medals be dealt with.

1139 **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 received a (a) Family Tax Benefit debt notice and (b) Child Care Benefit debt notice during (i) 2000-2001 and (ii) 2001-2002.

- (2) What was the average amount of (a) Family Tax Benefit debts and (b) Child Care Benefit debts for (i) 2000-2001 and (ii) 2001-2002.
- (3) Has the Government or Centrelink advised any clients to overestimate their income in order to prevent a future debt; if so, what measures has the Minister taken to ensure that those people who do overestimate their income, do not miss out on entitlements such as child care benefits or a health care card, which they would otherwise have been entitled to if they had stated their correct income at the beginning of the financial year.

1140 **MR MCLEAY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Are donations to the United Israel Appeal tax deductible; if so, when was this status granted.
- (2) Is he able to say what are the objectives of the appeal.

2 December 2002

1142 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Further to his reply, dated 21 October 2002, to a letter from me concerning Mr Qadir Fedayee, will he detail any or all of the information received from his Department relating to the reason for not granting a visa to Mr Fedayee; if not, why not.

1143 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What are the rules of engagement for members of the Australian SAS in counter terrorist situations.
- (2) What penalties can apply if soldiers operate outside these rules of engagement.
- (3) Do these soldiers have immunity from any criminal or civil action if they cause death or injury to civilians if operating under rules of engagement.

1144 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) How many (a) primary, (b) secondary and (c) tertiary students are there in Australia.
- (2) What proportion of GDP was spent on education in 2001-2002.
- (3) What are the funding arrangements for secondary students in terms of State and Federal Government funds spent on non-government and government schools.
- (4) In monetary terms, to what extent does the Federal Government subsidise non-government schools.

1145 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What adjustments were made to personal income tax thresholds and marginal rates, and in which years, under the (a) Hawke, (b) Keating and (c) Howard Governments.
- (2) What was the impact of the adjustments to personal income tax thresholds and marginal tax rates under the (a) Hawke, (b) Keating and (c) Howard Governments on Commonwealth revenue.
- (3) Can he provide details of the impact in constant dollars.

1147 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the demise of superannuation investment funds in the Enhanced Cash Management Trust (ECMT) through Commercial Nominees Limited (CNAL).
- (2) Did the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) give approval for CNAL as an approved fund/trustee for this fund.
- (3) Is he able to say whether the cash component of the ECMT has been virtually wiped out; if not, will he obtain data from APRA regarding the current cash assets within the ECMT; if not, why not.
- (4) Is he also able to say whether this fund and this fund manager is a kind of fund and matter that falls within the terms of reference of the current Senate Select Committee on Superannuation; if not, will he recommend that either the existing select committee's terms of reference be widened to include evidence going to the issues concerning CNAL and ECMT or a new Senate select committee be appointed to investigate such matters; if not, why not.

1153 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Has Diagnostic Technology Pty Ltd, on behalf of Digene Corporation, submitted a proposal to the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) for the funding of the Human Papillomavirus DNA (HPV DNA) test to manage women with low-grade Pap smear results; if not, why not.
- (2) Does the HPV DNA test specifically detect the human papillomavirus, which is responsible for over 99% of cervical cancers.

- (3) Can the HPV DNA test deliver immediate and downstream cost savings by providing clinicians with a definitive risk evaluation that will reduce the (a) need for additional unnecessary procedures and (b) frequency of Pap tests.
- (4) Has the Government accepted a recommendation of the MSAC not to list the HPV DNA test for triage of women with low-grade Pap test results; if so, why.
- (5) Is a second submission from Diagnostic Technology Pty Ltd for the introduction of the HPV DNA test in a screening role being considered by the MSAC.
- (6) Will the Minister approve this second application; if so, when; if not, why not.

1155 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to his address to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia on 20 November 2002, how many of the 183,000 jobs claimed to have been created since November 2001 are (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual.
- (2) How many of the one million jobs claimed to have been created since March 1996 are (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual.
- (3) How many full-time jobs have been created or lost since March 1996 in the electoral division of Prospect.

3 December 2002

MR KERR: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1161 - 1163)—

- (1) Is the Minister able to say whether a visit of a US nuclear powered warship proposed for the port of Hobart in or around late December 2002 has been postponed or cancelled.
- (2) Has there been any recent review of security issues relating to the visit of US warships to Australian ports since the (a) attacks in the USA on 11 September 2001 and (b) targeting and bombing of Australians in Bali on 12 October 2002.
- (3) Have those events or other events of a similar nature affected the assessment of risk associated with such visits; if so, what is the new assessment of risk.
- (4) Given Australians' heightened security concerns since those events, if visits proceed will the docking arrangements remain the same as those applying in the past; if not, what will be the new arrangements.
- (5) Will the exclusion area around any visiting vessel be the same as in the past; if not, what exclusion area will be established.
- (6) Will the arrangements for monitoring any exclusion area remain the same as in the past; if not, without disclosure of the detail of operational security matters, what different arrangements will be made.

1161 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1163 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

MR QUICK: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1164 - 1166)—

- (1) Further to questions Nos. 1161 to 1163 asked by the Member for Denison, will the arrangements for shore leave for the crews visiting Hobart remain the same as for recent past visits; if not, without disclosure of any detail relating to operational security issues, how will the arrangements change.
- (2) Will additional measures be taken that will have an impact on the ordinary activities of residents and visitors to Hobart during any future visit.
- (3) If so, what will those measures entail and what activities will they affect.
- (4) Has there been any recent assessment of the availability of appropriate infrastructure and resources to deal with an actual or threatened major terrorism incident directed towards such vessels, or the crew of such vessels on shore leave while the vessels are visiting Hobart; if so, what were the conclusions of the assessment; if not, will an assessment be undertaken.

1164 **MR QUICK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1166 **MR QUICK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

1167 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report on page 3 in *The Australian*, dated 5 November 2002, concerning compensation to be paid to farmers for losing access to water resources.

- (2) Will farmers receive millions of dollars in compensation for losing access to valuable water resources under a breakthrough property rights agreement to be endorsed by Federal Cabinet.
- (3) What sum will the decision cost.
- (4) What sum has been allocated in the Federal Budget to fund this decision and under which departmental program does it appear.

1170 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is Modafinil proving clinically useful in the treatment of narcolepsy.
- (2) Is Modafinil a memory-improving and mood-brightening psychostimulant.
- (3) Does Modafinil enhance wakefulness and vigilance in patients who suffer from narcolepsy but its pharmacological profile is notably different from amphetamines, Ritalin or cocaine.
- (4) Does Modafinil cost the typical user approximately \$500 per month.
- (5) Are most sufferers of narcolepsy in receipt of welfare pensions.
- (6) Will the Minister take steps to have Modafinil included on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for the treatment of narcolepsy; if so, when; if not, why not.

1171 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—What percentage of (a) barristers and (b) solicitors pay the top marginal rate of income tax.

1173 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Is he able to say what level of tariffs Malaysia places on four and six cylinder Australian automobiles produced by Holden, Ford and Mitsubishi.
- (2) Is he able to say what level of tariffs Malaysia places on other Australian elaborately transformed manufactured (ETM) goods.
- (3) Is he able to say whether there is a projected decrease in the tariff level by Malaysia, on (a) automobiles and (b) other ETM's as part of the APEC voluntary tariff reduction program.
- (4) What is the total number of Australian automobiles exported to Malaysia at the present time, and what level is it projected to reach under the new voluntary APEC tariff reduction standards.
- (5) What level of tariffs does Australia place on Malaysian automobiles imported into Australia.
- (6) What level of tariffs is placed on (a) Malaysian ETM goods and (b) other Malaysian manufactured goods imported into Australia.
- (7) What is the total number of Malaysian automobiles exported into Australia and what are the projected changes to the level of Malaysian automobile imports under future planned changes to the level of car tariff imports.

1174 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Following the announcement that Professor Allan Fels will bring forward his resignation date with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to 30 June 2003, what is the end date of Professor Fels' contract.
- (2) What are the notice, resignation or other arrangements that permit the non-completion of the contract.
- (3) What are the financial implications of the early termination of the contract to the Commonwealth.
- (4) Will Professor Fels receive any form of payment from the contract after it terminates on 30 June 2003.

1177 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—What are the names, positions and principal qualifications of the persons who will represent Australia at the Round Table of Ministers and Senior Officials responsible for Physical Education and Sport to be convened by the Director-General of UNESCO in Paris on 9-10 January 2003.

1178 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is it the case that the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) only allows for CT spiral angiography once in a twelve-month period; if so, are there any exceptions and what are they; if not, why not.
- (2) Is the Minister aware of the cases of Mr William Harvey and Mr Neville Nichols who recently underwent CT spiral angiography and were denied a Medicare rebate for this procedure because it was their second such procedure in the past twelve months, despite this procedure being deemed to be an essential procedure by their vascular specialist.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that Mr Nichols is an aged pensioner and does not have the capacity to pay for the procedure, and that Mr Harvey is a self-funded retiree on a limited income and is also experiencing difficulties in paying.

- (4) Should people who have serious, often life threatening, medical conditions be forced to carry the financial burden of procedures deemed essential by medical specialists because those procedures are non-refundable through Medicare; if so, why.
- (5) Will the Minister amend the legislation so that people are not denied essential procedures because they cannot afford the cost once they are no longer entitled to Medicare; if not, why not.
- (6) If not, will the Minister amend the MBS to allow those requiring essential procedures access to Medicare regardless of the number of procedures required in a twelve month period; if not, why not.
- (7) If not, will the Minister amend the MBS to allow for discretion in cases where a specialist deems CT spiral angiography essential.
- (8) On what basis were the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists and the Australian Diagnostic Imaging Association engaged to advise the Minister's Department in relation to limiting clinical conditions under the Medicare benefit.
- (9) Given the cases of Mr Harvey and Mr Nichols, has the advice referred to in part (8) resulted in increased and unfair burdens being placed on patients who require CT spiral angiography; if not, why not.

1179 **MRL. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) How many adult settlers accessed the services of the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) in 1996 and each subsequent year.
- (2) What was the average number of hours that (a) refugee and humanitarian settlers, (b) family migrants and (c) skilled migrants stayed in the AMEP in each year.
- (3) What was the average annual cost to his Department for each AMEP client each year.

4 December 2002

1180 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he aware of a formal safety assessment led by the United Kingdom into bulk carrier safety that will be discussed at the next International Maritime Organisation Maritime Safety Committee.
- (2) What is the position on single versus double hulled bulk carriers that Australia will put to that meeting.
- (3) Do single hulled bulk carriers constitute a safety risk to the marine environment and crew; if so, what will he do about it.
- (4) How many single hulled bulk carriers worked on Australia's coastline in each of the past 10 years.

1181 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What are the implications for Australian airlines and travel by Australians of the European Court of Justice decision to treat Europe as a single aviation market.
- (2) Is the Government sending a representative to the March 2003 International Civil Aviation Organisation World Air Transport Conference where the issue will be discussed; if so, who will represent Australia and what position will they put in relation to this issue.

1182 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has Mr Toller been appointed to the newly created position of Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), in either a permanent or acting capacity.
- (2) When does the position officially commence.
- (3) Will the position be advertised; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the position attract the same level of remuneration as the current position of Director; if not, what is the difference in salary and benefits.
- (5) In what ways are the duties different from the position of CASA Director.
- (6) Is Mr Toller's current contract due to expire on 30 June 2004.
- (7) If Mr Toller is not appointed to the position, (a) will Mr Toller's contract be paid out and (b) what are the termination provisions in Mr Toller's contract.

1183 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Apart from the \$34 million approved by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Board in July 2002, what other costs have been incurred on the CASA Improvement Program and for what services, products or arrangements have those costs been incurred.

- (2) What is the itemised breakdown of the \$34 million approved by the CASA Board in July 2002, what sum has been spent so far, to whom has it been paid and for what services or products.
- (3) What information technology systems will be replaced by the new system.
- (4) Is the information technology system that supports the CASA Improvement Program an off the shelf system; if not, (a) why not and (b) was a cost-benefit analysis completed as part of the decision to not use an off the shelf system.
- (5) Did CASA study or assess what systems other countries use to perform the same functions; if not, why not; if so, what were the findings.
- (6) Is he able to say whether the New Zealand aviation safety regulator has a similar system that cost it \$3 million; if so, why did CASA not use that system or something similar.
- (7) What is meant by the term “performance-based alliance” used in the CASA annual report to describe the contract with Accenture Australia Holdings Pty Ltd.
- (8) What is CASA’s completion guarantee on this project.
- (9) What is the end date on the contract with Accenture and what sum has been paid to Accenture to date.
- (10) Who is responsible within CASA for monitoring the contract.
- (11) Is the \$34 million approved by the CASA Board in July 2002 the final cost of the CASA Improvement Program; if not, what is the (a) projected total cost and (b) benefit to aviation safety and the Australian taxpayer.

1184 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) involved in any projects, programs or studies relating to deep vein thrombosis arising from air travel.
- (2) Is CASA monitoring the court and any other proceedings on this issue; if so, what is the view on the need for regulatory intervention or action.
- (3) How is CASA assuring itself that there is no need for more regulatory action on this issue.

1185 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Were all recommendations in the final report of the International Civil Aviation Organisation Audit conducted into the Civil Aviation Safety Authority in 1999 agreed to and implemented; if not, which items were not and why not.
- (2) Will he provide a list of the recommendations and include advice on the action taken in relation to each recommendation and the date that action was taken and concluded.

1186 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With respect to Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulatory service fees referred to on page 91 of the CASA annual report for 2001-2002, (a) what are these services, (b) when did each service commence, (c) when did CASA commence charging for each service and (d) who is charged for each service.
- (2) Which of these fees increased, and by what sum, to contribute to the \$300 000 revenue increase in 2001-2002.
- (3) Who determined the amount of each charge and who determines any variation to each charge.
- (4) Does CASA make a profit on any of these charges; if so, which charges and what profit has it made each year.
- (5) Does CASA make a loss on any of these charges; if so, which charges and what loss has it made each year.
- (6) By what sum did the revenue from these services increase in each year since CASA commenced.

1187 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Which projects have been approved for funding against the advice of the Regional Solutions Program Advisory Committee.
- (2) Which Minister approved each project.
- (3) On what date were these projects approved at ministerial level.
- (4) For all projects that have been rejected by the Advisory Committee and then approved, what reason was given by the Advisory Committee to support their recommendation.
- (5) What reasons were given for the decision to overturn the advice of the Advisory Committee.

- (6) For each of these projects, what was the recommendation of his Department to the Advisory Committee.
- (7) What projects have been rejected after having been recommended for approval by the Advisory Committee.
- (8) On what date were these projects rejected.
- (9) Which Minister rejected each application.
- (10) For each project, what reasons were given by the Advisory Committee for rejecting the application and what reasons were given for overturning that decision.
- (11) Which projects with a value in excess of \$10,000 have been approved without reference to the Advisory Committee.
- (12) Which Minister approved each project.
- (13) On what date was each project approved.
- (14) In which federal electoral division is each project.
- (15) On what date was each project announced.
- (16) On what dates were applications for each project received by his Department.

1188 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For what reason was the Chair of the Sunshine Coast Area Consultative Committee recently replaced.
- (2) What process was undertaken to identify the new Chair.
- (3) Which organisations and individuals were consulted to identify a replacement Chair.
- (4) How many possible Chairs were proposed.
- (5) Who made the decision to appoint Mr Nioa as Chair and why was he selected over other proposed candidates.
- (6) Who formally appointed the new Chair.
- (7) For what reason was the Chair of the Newcastle Area Consultative Committee recently replaced.
- (8) What process was undertaken to identify the new Chair.
- (9) Which organisations and individuals were consulted to identify a replacement Chair.
- (10) How many possible Chairs were proposed.
- (11) Who made the decision to appoint Mr Geoghegan as Chair and why was he selected over other proposed candidates.
- (12) Who formally appointed the new Chair.
- (13) Has the new chair previously participated on the Committee; if so, (a) for which years was Mr Geoghegan a member and (b) how many meetings were held while Mr Geoghegan was a member and how many did Mr Geoghegan attend.
- (14) Will he provide a list of all Area Consultative Committee Chairs who have been replaced since 1 January 2002.
- (15) Did these Chairs choose to step down or were they replaced.
- (16) For those Chairs who were replaced, who made the decision to replace them.

1190 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Is he able to say what level of tariffs (a) South Korea, (b) Taiwan and (c) Thailand place on four and six cylinder Australian automobiles produced by Holden, Ford and Mitsubishi.
- (2) Is he able to say what level of tariffs (a) South Korea, (b) Taiwan and (c) Thailand place on other Australian elaborately transformed manufactured (ETM) goods.
- (3) Is he able to say whether there is a projected decrease in the tariff level by (a) South Korea, (b) Taiwan and (c) Thailand on (i) automobiles and (ii) other ETM's as part of the APEC voluntary tariff reduction program.
- (4) What is the total number of Australian automobiles exported to (a) South Korea, (b) Taiwan and (c) Thailand at the present time, and what levels are they projected to reach under the new voluntary APEC tariff reduction standards.
- (5) What level of tariffs does Australia place on automobiles imported into Australia from (a) South Korea, (b) Taiwan and (c) Thailand.

- (6) What level of tariffs is placed on (a) ETM goods and (b) other manufactured goods imported into Australia from (i) South Korea, (ii) Taiwan and (iii) Thailand.
- (7) What is the total number of (a) South Korean, (b) Taiwanese and (c) Thai automobiles exported to Australia and what are the projected changes to the level of (d) South Korean, (e) Taiwanese and (f) Thai automobile imports under future planned changes to the level of car tariff imports.

1191 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is he able to say which countries have legislated a ten percent limit to the ethanol content in petrol.
- (2) Is he able to say whether there is a suggested worldwide standard of ethanol component to regular unleaded petrol.
- (3) What percentage of retail petrol sales in Australia in November (a) 2000, (b) 2001 and (c) 2002 had higher than ten percent ethanol component.
- (4) What percentage of ethanol used in Australian regular unleaded petrol is produced as a bi-product of (a) sugar cane production and (b) wheat starch.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1194 - 1195)—Is the Government confident that all owners of businesses who operate in a largely cash environment are (a) collecting the full amount of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) at the point of sale and (b) remitting to the Australian Taxation Office the full amount of GST collected; if so, why; if not, why not.

1194 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer.

1195 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

5 December 2002

1196 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) For (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 2001-2002, how many, and what percentage of, taxpayers were audited by the Australian Taxation Office.
- (2) What percentage of audits uncovered mistakes or fraud which resulted in an increase in the taxpayer's tax liability for each year.
- (3) What was the average sum the tax liability increased per taxpayer discovered to have made a mistake or committed fraud for each year.
- (4) What was the average fine or penalty imposed on taxpayers discovered to have made a mistake or committed fraud for each year.
- (5) What was the gross sum of (a) increased tax and (b) fines or penalties imposed on these taxpayers for each year.
- (6) What were the administrative and compliance costs for these audits for each year.

1197 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) For (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 2001-2002, how many, and what percentage of, persons were audited by Centrelink.
- (2) What percentage of audits uncovered mistakes or fraud which resulted in a debt being raised against the person for each year.
- (3) What was the average debt for each year.
- (4) What was the average fine or penalty imposed on persons discovered to have made a mistake or committed fraud for each year.
- (5) What was the gross sum of (a) debt and (b) fines or penalties imposed on these persons for each year.
- (6) What were the administrative and compliance costs for these audits for each year.

1201 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Does the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) investigate, on behalf of consumers, complaints against superannuation funds.
- (2) How many investigations following complaints were undertaken by APRA in (a) 1997-98, (b) 1998-99, (c) 1999-2000, (d) 2000-2001 and (e) 2001-2002.
- (3) Are investigations into complaints required to comply with a code of practice or standard procedures; if so, are these procedures and processes available to the general public upon making a complaint to APRA.
- (4) Is it a requirement that complainants are advised of the outcome of investigations; if not, why not.

1203 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Minister issue a News Release on 30 August 2002 titled “Strengthening Laws To Prevent Tax Abuse”.
- (2) Did the News Release state that both the Minister and the Attorney-General had initiated a number of changes to bankruptcy, tax and family law following consideration of a joint taskforce’s report on the issue; if so, what are the changes.
- (3) Did the News Release also indicate that the taskforce involved the Attorney-General’s Department, the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), the Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia and the Treasury and that it had been set up in light of reports in 2001 that some barristers were misusing the law to avoid paying tax.
- (4) Did the News Release further state that, in relation to taxation laws, the taskforce noted that secrecy provisions can restrict the ATO’s provision of information to a trustee in bankruptcy and to professional associations and that the Minister was giving further consideration to these issues.
- (5) What is the outcome of that consideration.
- (6) Did the taskforce make any recommendations in relation to section 16 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*; if so, what were (a) those recommendations and (b) the reasons for the taskforce making such recommendations.
- (7) Will the Minister introduce legislation to amend section 16 of the Income Tax Assessment Act to allow the Commissioner of Taxation to provide information which is in the public interest; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (8) When will the taskforce’s report be made available to the public.

1204 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to evidence given on 2 December 2002 in the treason trial of Timoci Silatolu and Jo Nata in Suva, Fiji, arising from the armed overthrow of the government of Fiji Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudry, in which it was alleged that the weapons used in the coup were supplied by the Ambassador of Israel.
- (2) Has he or his Department received reports regarding these allegations.
- (3) Has his Department taken any action in relation to this matter following the receipt of any such reports; if so, what action has been taken.
- (4) What regulations apply to the importation of firearms and other weapons for delivery to foreign diplomatic missions to Australia.

1205 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Has the Minister’s attention been drawn to evidence given on 2 December 2002 in the treason trial of Timoci Silatolu and Jo Nata in Suva, Fiji, arising from the armed overthrow of the government of Fiji Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudry, in which it was alleged that the weapons used in the coup were supplied by the Ambassador of Israel.
- (2) Have any goods identified as diplomatic containers for delivery to the Israeli diplomatic mission to Fiji been transhipped to Fiji through Australian airports or seaports in the past 5 years.
- (3) What regulations apply to the importation of firearms and other weapons for delivery to foreign diplomatic missions to Australia.
- (4) What regulations apply to the transhipment of firearms or weapons through Australian airports or seaports to diplomatic missions in other countries.

9 December 2002

1208 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the answer to question No. 864 (*Hansard*, 2 December 2002, page 9335), what were the reasons for the Implementation Monitoring Committee determining that the resolution of the Sydney Airport Community Forum, dated 22 May 1998, could not be implemented.

1209 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) On what date was the Dairy Exit Program (DEP) announced.
- (2) On what date was the first DEP project approved.
- (3) Who is eligible for DEP funding.
- (4) How many applications for the DEP have there been to date.

- (5) How many of these applications are from farmers who have also lodged a Claim After Sale form.
- (6) How many of these applications are from farmers who have not yet lodged a Claim After Sale form.
- (7) How many DEP grants have been approved to date.
- (8) How many DEP grants have been paid to date.
- (9) Of DEP grants approved, what is the average payment for each farmer.
- (10) What is the total DEP expenditure to date.

1210 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many children are being detained in each departmental immigration detention centre (IDC) in Australia, Manus Island and Nauru.
- (2) How many children under the age of (a) 1 year, (b) 5 years and (c) 12 years are being detained in each departmental IDC.
- (3) To date, what is the longest period of detention of children in a departmental IDC.
- (4) What is the current average detention period for a detained child in an Australian IDC.
- (5) How many children in each IDC are being detained with (a) both parents and (b) one parent only.
- (6) How many children in each IDC are accompanied by a sibling or other family member or guardian, other than a parent.
- (7) How many children in each IDC are unaccompanied.
- (8) What proportion of children under the age of 18 years receive regular schooling.
- (9) What educational facilities exist within each IDC.
- (10) What monitoring, if any, is there of educational outcomes within each IDC.
- (11) What support is provided to unaccompanied children within each IDC.

10 December 2002

1213 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of new technologies, such as hyper spectral imaging and light detection and ranging (LIDAR) which is now available by mobile devices, to assist in the identification of biological and chemical agents.
- (2) Is the Minister or his Department making any inquiries about this system for Australia; if not, why not.
- (3) Is the Government considering funding further research on developing such devices within Australia; if not, why not.
- (4) Is the Government considering purchasing this system or similar systems, given its stated concern about terrorists acquiring weapons of mass destruction; if not, why not.

1214 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 998 (*Hansard*, 3 December 2002, page 9450), in which state do the nine individuals referred to live.
- (2) What other details can he provide about the nine individuals.
- (3) What steps are being taken by the Government to prepare the nine individuals for extradition.
- (4) What are the details of approaches made by the Australian Government to the Government of Lithuania about the matter, including what (a) was the content of those approaches and (b) response has been received.
- (5) Has the Government received any approaches from any other organisation or government about the nine individuals; if so, what (a) was the content of those approaches and (b) response has been provided.

1215 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Will he bring up-to-date the answer to question No. 1954 (*Hansard*, 31 October, page 21791) concerning the Second Protocol (The Hague 1999) to the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague 1954).

1216 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Will the Government provide an increase in legal aid funding or special funding for persons who are charged with executor and trustee administrative duties of Australian citizens who are of limited financial means such as pensioners and who otherwise qualify for a

grant of legal aid, who have administrative responsibilities in the administration of the deceased estates of Australians who have perished through terrorist attacks such as the Bali attack; if so, when; if not, why not.

MR M. J. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1217 - 1218)—

- (1) Further to the advice given in Senate Estimates on 20 November 2002 that Air Marshal Houston and Airservices Australia have agreed to work towards the provision by Airservices Australia of air traffic control services at Townsville and Darwin airports, when will the consultation phase (a) commence and (b) conclude and which agencies and organisations will be included in that consultation.
- (2) Will the proposal involve Airservices Australia providing defence and civilian air traffic control services.
- (3) Does the decision relate to previous reports of a Defence shortage of air traffic controllers; if so, can the Minister assure the public that sufficient Defence resources exist to safely cover the functions until the proposed changes occur; if not, will interim measures be put in place.
- (4) Is the decision to transfer functions from Defence to Airservices Australia a ministerial or agency level decision.
- (5) Will any other airport or aviation functions be involved in a transfer of functions at (a) Darwin, (b) Townsville or (c) other airports; if so, which services and locations.

1217 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1218 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1219 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answers to questions Nos. 184 (*Hansard*, 15 May 2002, page 2300) and 408 (*Hansard*, 20 August 2002, page 5279), on what occasions since he became Foreign Minister have meetings been held in the context of the Five Power Defence Arrangements.
- (2) At which of these meetings were refugee and illegal migration issues discussed and with what results.

11 December 2002

1220 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Has he assessed the impact of restrictions contained in the Trade Promotion Authority legislation passed by the US Congress in 2002 which limit the US President's authority to negotiate bilateral reductions in US trade barriers in import sensitive agricultural products.
- (2) What agricultural products are covered by these provisions.
- (3) Is he able to say how these provisions will influence the US Government's negotiations for a free trade agreement with Australia.
- (4) Is he able to say whether the US Administration cannot commence negotiating a free trade agreement with Australia before consulting Congress on these import-sensitive agricultural products.
- (5) What proportion of the estimated \$4 billion annual benefit to Australia from a free trade agreement with the US comes from (a) the US removing its restrictions on agricultural trade and (b) Australia unilaterally abolishing its own tariffs.
- (6) Has the US Government identified several items for negotiation, including Australia's quarantine service, local content rules for television, single marketing desks for agricultural exports and the Foreign Investment Review Board.
- (7) Will liberalisation in these areas be considered in developing a free trade agreement with the US.
- (8) What proposals are being discussed with the US to make Australia's quarantine system more acceptable to the US.

1221 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Has there been any change in the budget appropriation for each initiative in Backing Australia's Ability for each year from 2001-2002 to 2005-2006, as set out at page 58 in the Productivity Commission's 2001 *Trade Assistance Review*.
- (2) What was the actual spending for each initiative referred to in part (1) in 2001-2002.

1223 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade—

- (1) How much of the estimated \$4 billion benefit from a free trade agreement with the United States comes from Australia unilaterally removing its own trade barriers.
- (2) Will tariffs for Australia's automotive industry be discussed as part of the negotiations for a free trade agreement.

- 1224 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—
- (1) Has the Inglewood Development and Tourism Committee submitted an application to the Rural Transaction Centre Program to establish a Rural Transaction Centre (RTC) in Inglewood, Vic.
 - (2) Is he aware that the establishment of an RTC in Inglewood is vital in maintaining existing, and providing new, services thus providing a full range of services to the community and ensuring the social and economic growth for the district.
 - (3) Will he approve the submission for an RTC in Inglewood; if so, when.
- 1225 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report by Rohan Gunaratna, a Research fellow at the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, in *The Age* on 5 December 2002 that a dozen Australian citizens and residents have participated in Ji and al Qaeda training camps.
 - (2) Is he able to provide details about these individuals, including (a) age, (b) State of residence, (c) citizenship, (d) place of birth and (e) sex
 - (3) Is the Government considering what action, if any, can be taken against these individuals.
- 1226 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report by Rohan Gunaratna, a Research fellow at the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, in *The Age* on 5 December 2002 that a dozen Australian citizens and residents have participated in Ji and al Qaeda training camps.
 - (2) Was the presence of a dozen Australians at these terrorist camps not considered significant until the Bali bombings; if so, why.
 - (3) What action can the Government take to prevent further Australian citizens or residents from participating in such training camps and has such action been taken.
- 1227 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Were any flights chartered to allow officials of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) to attend the hearings of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration in (a) Sydney on 31 May 2002 and (b) Warrnambool on 6 December 2002; if so, what was the cost of each charter flight.
 - (2) How many commercial airline sectors were travelled by RBA officials for each hearing.
 - (3) What was the cost of each commercial airline sector travelled for each hearing.
 - (4) What was the cost of using (a) hire cars and (b) Comcar for each hearing.
 - (5) What was the cost of (a) overnight accommodation and (b) travel allowance for RBA officials for each hearing.
- 1228 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) How many Commonwealth funded (a) high care aged care beds, (b) low care aged care beds and (c) aged care packages are there in the electoral divisions of (i) Chisholm, (ii) Deakin, (iii) Higgins, (iv) Bruce, (v) Menzies and (vi) Kooyong.
 - (2) In each year between 1997-98 and 2001-2002 inclusive, how many new (a) high care aged care beds, (b) low care aged care beds and (c) aged care packages were there in the electoral divisions of (i) Chisholm, (ii) Deakin, (iii) Higgins, (iv) Bruce, (v) Menzies and (vi) Kooyong.
 - (3) For the purposes of planning the provision of aged care beds, what number of people aged over the age of 70 reside in the electoral divisions of (a) Chisholm, (b) Deakin, (c) Higgins, (d) Bruce, (e) Menzies and (f) Kooyong.
- 1229 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) What is the name and street address of each aged care facility in the electoral divisions of (a) Chisholm, (b) Deakin, (c) Higgins, (d) Bruce, (e) Menzies and (f) Kooyong that receives Commonwealth funding.
 - (2) Has any facility referred to in part (1) failed accreditation; if so, which facility.
 - (3) Has a surprise inspection of any facility referred to in part (1) been undertaken by his Department; if so, what was the date of the each inspection.
- 1232 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—In light of recent deaths of Australians to meningococcal disease and given the Government's commitment to

- vaccinate all Australian schoolchildren aged between 15 and 19 years of age against meningococcal C in 2003, will the Commonwealth reimburse the cost of this vaccination to those concerned parents who choose to vaccinate their children earlier than when the program commences.
- 1233 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister assisting the Minister for Defence—Are Australian personnel who served as members of the Australian Defence Force in the Active War Zone of Vietnam (Southern Zone) between 12 January 1973 and 29 April 1975 entitled to the same medals, recognition and benefits as other Australians who served in Vietnam.
- 1235 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—How many applications to the Australian Industrial Relations Commission lodged pursuant to section 170CE of the Workplace Relations Act relating to unfair, harsh or unreasonable dismissals, have involved as respondents, businesses that employ 20 or less employees in each State and Territory in (a) 2000-2001 and (b) 2001-2002.
- 1236 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many Family Tax Benefit (FTB) claims have been made (a) directly through the Family Assistance Office (FAO) and (b) through the tax system for 2000-2001.
 - (2) Is 30 June 2002 the time limit for all FTB claims for 2000-2001.
 - (3) How many FTB claims made through the FAO for 2000-2001 have been rejected because of late lodgement of applications.
 - (4) Does the FAO provide accompanying instructions to the FTB claim form titled the “Family Tax Benefit Short Tax Claim Guide”.
 - (5) If so, under the heading “Choices for Claiming FTB” does the Guide state two ways that the FTB can be claimed, namely as a direct payment through the FAO or through the tax system.
 - (6) Does the Guide refer to a time limit of 30 June 2002 for FTB claims lodged through the tax system but makes no mention of a time limit for FTB claims lodged through the FAO.
 - (7) Is there any information on the FAO website highlighting or indicating any time limit for lodging an FTB claim directly through the FAO; if not, why not.
 - (8) Will the Government make the necessary changes to the Guide and FAO website to ensure Australians are sufficiently informed of their rights and responsibilities when claiming an FTB payment through the FAO; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 1237 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) What are the details of the Draft Ruling the Australian Tax Office (ATO) has released dealing with time chartering ships.
 - (2) Has the Government or the ATO costed this measure; if so, what is the cost impact of the ruling.
 - (3) Has the Government or the ATO received legal advice on the draft ruling; if so, what was the legal advice.
 - (4) What consultation did the ATO undertake.
 - (5) Is the Government and the ATO aware of the criticisms of this measure and the affects it will have on the national shipping industry.
 - (6) Will the Draft Ruling severely injure the Australian shipping industry.
 - (7) Will the Government legislate or take any other action, including funding a test case to test the validity of the Ruling, to ensure that this Draft Ruling will not come into force.

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- 1238 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) At any time over the last five years has Telstra either employed, or entered into a contract with public relations practitioners (a) Andrew Whist, (b) John Dollison, (c) Phillip Francis, (d) Wendy Burrell and (e) Bryan Simpson; if so, what activities have they undertaken on Telstra's behalf.
 - (2) Has Telstra had any discussion, or entered into any arrangement, with Phillip Morris with respect to public relations matters over the past five years.
- 1239 **MR EVANS:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What is the particular quarantine threat that is associated with the importation of dried sugar infused blueberries (*Vaccinium angustifolium*) from the USA.

(2) How does the possession of an import permit by the importer assist in ensuring that the threat is reduced or eliminated.

(3) Why is the period of validity of the import permit limited to 6 months.

1240 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

(1) In 2002, how many mobile telephone towers are there in (a) Australia, (b) NSW, (c) Sydney and (d) the electoral division of Chifley.

(2) How many, and what percentage, of the mobile telephone towers had facilities for multiple service carriers.

1241 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

(1) Did the Government state in the 2000-2001 Budget that it intended to ensure that the introduction of the GST would not cause country motorists to pay more for fuel relative to city motorists.

(2) Did the Government estimate at that time that the cost of its program to achieve this end would be \$500 million over four years; if so, what was the basis on which this estimate was made.

(3) Did he state on the ABC program, "Landline", in February 2001 that the Government had contributed actually closer to \$900 million to ease the country/city price differential.

(4) At the time he made that statement, what (a) was the estimated cost of the program over four years and (b) is the present estimate of the cost over the same four years.

(5) What was the original estimate of the cost of the program for 2000-2001 and what was the actual cost for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.

(6) If there was a difference between the original estimated cost and the final cost, what was the reason.

1243 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Treasurer—

(1) What sum has the Government collected each year from the GST levied on tolls paid by motorists on roads and roadworks in (a) each State and Territory and (b) Australia since the introduction of the GST.

(2) Prior to the introduction of the GST, what figure did the Government project to accrue to it from the GST on tolls in (a) each State and Territory and (b) Australia in (i) the first full year of the operation of the GST and (ii) in each of the subsequent four years.

1244 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

(1) Is April 2003 the expiry date for the contract for the Commercial Support Program (CSP) being carried out by the Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation—Geospatial Information Branch for defence mapping at the Fortuna Villa site in Bendigo.

(2) How many staff are engaged on the project at Bendigo.

(3) What total sum was paid in 2001-2002 in wages and salaries of staff employed by the organisation in Bendigo.

(4) At the expiration of the contract, what is the future of (a) the work presently being carried out under this contract, (b) the staff engaged on the project and (c) of the location.

(5) Does the Government intend that the work and staff will be transferred to Canberra or any other site in Australia; if so, to what other site.

(6) Can the Minister assure the Organisation, and its staff, that it will not undergo a further CSP process but instead be absorbed back into the mainstream Defence Department.

(7) Can the Minister give an assurance that the work, the staff and the site will not be moved from Bendigo.

1245 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

(1) What was the (a) number of (i) general practitioners and (ii) specialists and (b) the ratio of each such group per 1000 head of population in (A) the federal electoral division of Bendigo, (B) Melbourne, (C) Victoria, (D) Australia, (E) rural Victoria, (F) regional Victoria, (G) metropolitan Australia, (H) rural Australia and (I) regional Australia in (I) 1995, (II) 2000 and (III) 2002 or other similar years for which figures are available.

(2) What has been the (a) number and (b) percentage of (i) general practitioners and (ii) specialists in each such case that bulk-bill.

1246 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has the Governor-General been granted a designated Commonwealth car driver in any State capital city of Australia; if so, in which capital city.
- (2) Has the Governor-General requested a designated Commonwealth car driver in any State capital city of Australia; if so, (a) in which capital city and (b) has the request been refused; if so, why.

1247 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to part (1) of question No. 46 (*Hansard*, 2 December 2002, page 9321), is he able to say whether Macquarie Bank or its subsidiaries is a shareholder to any of the corporations mentioned in his answer; if so, which companies and in what proportion; if not, why not.
- (2) Further to the answer to part (3) of question No. 46, is he able to say whether Macquarie Bank or its subsidiary is a shareholder of Southern Cross Airports Corporation.

1248 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to part (8) of question No. 668 (*Hansard*, 22 October 2002, page 8390), does the absence of financial, environmental and safety impacts on forecast aircraft traffic increases on Bankstown Airport flowing from the sale of Sydney Airport mean that the sale of Sydney Airport was made without any knowledge of those anticipated impacts; if not, why not.
- (2) How is it possible to regulate those impacts from Sydney Airport on Bankstown Airport in the foreshadowed specific proposal to upgrade facilities and operational aspects of Bankstown Airport, when the incidence of that impact flows from Sydney Airport, not Bankstown Airport.

1249 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to his reply to question No. 784 (*Hansard*, 2 December 2002, page 9333), why is the information sought not available.

1250 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the reply to part (4) of question No. 472 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4970) and the reply to part (3) of question No. 882 (*Hansard*, 15 October 2002, page 7675) by the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, was any Government supervision or scrutiny made of the sale of Traveland to Internova, in light of what appears to be a commercial transaction involving the sale and transfer of a strategic national travel agency to a company that was ab initio fundamentally incapable of providing that service; if so, what supervision was undertaken; if not, why not.

1252 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—Further to the answers to question No. 679 (*Hansard*, 23 October 2002, page 8570) and to parts (2), (6) and (7) of question No. 394 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4964) by the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration, was the Minister consulted 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 Minister's advice prior to the sale of the former share assets of ADI.

1253 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1134, did he or the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) inquire whether any of the 27 taxpayer funded motor vehicle trips or 16 taxpayer-funded interstate aeroplane trips undertaken by former Senator Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston between 1 July 1999 and 6 May 2002 were for the purpose of Dr Colston being required to attend a medical appointment; if not, why not.
- (2) Did he or the DPP ask Dr Colston whether any of the trips referred to in part (1) were for the purpose of Dr Colston being required to attend a medical appointment; if so, what did Dr Colston advise the DPP; if not, why not.

1254 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—Further to the answers to question No. 679 (*Hansard*, 23 October 2002, page 8570) and to part (4) of question No. 394 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4964), if his portfolio does not maintain current information on the shareholdings of those entities, (a) does this amount to an absence of control in ascertaining what vested interests have a controlling interest in the strategic assets referred to and (b) what security risks flow from this situation.

1255 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—What sum 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.

1256 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) What is the name and street address of each aged care facility in the electoral division of Lowe that receives Commonwealth funding.
- (2) Has any facility referred to in part (1) failed accreditation; if so, which facilities.
- (3) Has any spot check of any facility referred to in part (1) been undertaken by his Department; if so, what was the date of each spot check and which facility.

1258 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) What were the production costs of the “Centrelink Call—Celebrating Ten Years” video.
- (2) How many videos were produced.
- (3) To whom have the videos been distributed.
- (4) What were the distribution costs of the video.
- (5) How many hours of staff time were involved in the (a) production and (b) distribution of the video.
- (6) What is the total budget for this video.
- (7) What have been the total costs of the video.

1259 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Are there reports detailing the adequacy or otherwise of the current building housing the Newcastle Registry of the Family Court of Australia with regard to security and functionality; if so, what were the findings or recommendations.
- (2) Is the Commonwealth contemplating strategies to respond to those reports and their recommendations; if so, what are those strategies and what is the implementation schedule.
- (3) Is the Commonwealth considering new premises for the Newcastle Registry of the Family Court of Australia; if so, what efforts, if any, have been made to obtain a suitable site or building.
- (4) If efforts have been made to obtain a new site or building, is there an acquisition or construction schedule in place.
- (5) If there are plans to acquire or construct a building, what is the financial allocation and the funding process for this project.
- (6) If a tender process for the acquisition or construction of a new building is contemplated or is in place, what are the scope and conditions of the tender.
- (7) Will the scope of works or acquisition plan provide for the full functions of the Federal Magistrates Service.
- (8) Will the scope of works or acquisition plan provide for the full functions of the Federal Court.
- (9) Given the potential benefits to the local legal profession and to the service sector generally, has a cost benefit analysis been done on expanding the Newcastle Registry of the Family Court to a full Federal Court; if so, what were the findings; if not, will he initiate such an analysis in consultation with all relevant parties.

1261 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many families and individuals in the electoral division of Newcastle in (a) 2000, (b) 2001 and (c) 2002 received a (i) Family Tax Benefit debt notice and (ii) Child Care Benefit debt notice.
- (2) Of these debts, how many were incurred in each year, despite individuals having changed their estimation of income to reflect their changed circumstances during the year.
- (3) How many childcare centres in the electoral division of Newcastle have received a debt notice arising from the old Child Care Assistance Scheme.
- (4) What steps is the Government taking to ensure that low and middle-income families, who are unable to accurately predict 12 months in advance their annual income, will not be penalised by the family payment system.

1262 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—In the Government’s response to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs inquiry into indigenous health titled “Health is Life”, did the Government indicate that the Minister would report to Parliament on the cost of providing adequate water, within three years, to all the communities where water supplies do not meet national standards; if so, is the Minister in a position now to provide that information to the House.

- 1263 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—In early 2001 was a set of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Indicators and Targets agreed to by the Commonwealth Minister and State and Territory Health Ministers; if so, (a) what are the indicators and targets as agreed in 2001 and (b) how do the indicators and targets agreed in 2001 differ to the indicators agreed upon in 1997.
- 1264 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is he able to say whether the Saudi based charity the Islamic International Relief Organisation (IIRO) has as its regional SE director Jamal Mohamed Khalifa, the brother-in-law of Osama Bin Laden.
 - (2) Has his attention been drawn to a report titled “Tentacles of Terror: Al Qaeda’s Southeast Asian Network”, by Dr Zachary Abuza, extracted from a forthcoming book, Terrorism and Radical Islam in Southeast Asia, which claims that Jamal Mohamed Khalifa established other front companies for JI/Al Qaeda, including Khalifa Trading Industries, ET Dizon Travel, Pyramid Trading and Manpower Services and Daw al Iman al Shafee Inc.
 - (3) Does the Australian Government share the view of Dr Abuza and other analysts that all of these organisations had the real purpose of supporting Al Qaeda/JI terrorist activities in South-east Asia.
 - (4) Is he able to confirm whether al Qaeda operative Wali Khan Amin Shah established a shell company, the Bermuda Trading Company in Malaysia, and that al Qaeda’s chief representative in Malaysia, Ahmad Fauzi, aka Abdul al Hakim, established companies such as Green Laboratory Medicine SDN BHD, In focus Technology SDN BHD, Secure Valley SDN BHD and Konsojaya SDN BHD in that country for the purpose of supporting al Qaeda/JI activities.
 - (5) Do any of these businesses or charities operate in Australia, or have operated in Australia over the last decade.
 - (6) Have any of these ostensible charities had, or have, charitable or tax deductible status in Australia.
 - (7) If they have operated, or are operating, (a) who are their directors and (b) what was the extent of their tax-deductible claims in every year since 1991 when Mr Abu Bakar Baysar commenced visiting Australia.
- 1265 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the death sentence imposed on Iranian academic Hashem Aghajari for blasphemy.
 - (2) Has this sentence led to the latest in widespread student demonstrations against the regime.
 - (3) Is he able to say whether 83 reformist publications have been shut down by the judiciary in the past two years.
 - (4) Is the Australian Government monitoring the status of Hashem Aghaji; if so, what is his current status.
 - (5) Has the Australian Government made any approaches to the Iranian Government about either of these matters; if so, what were the content of those approaches.
- 1267 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he able to confirm reports that the Malaysian authorities have arrested 70 suspected al-Qaeda and JI operatives since 2001.
 - (2) Is he able to confirm that a number of those arrested are not from Malaysia, but are citizens of other countries in the Organisation of Islamic States (OIS).
 - (3) Is he able to say whether Malaysia has a policy of not requiring a visa from anyone from an OIS country.
 - (4) Is he able to say whether any other countries in South East Asia or in the OIS have a similar policy of not requiring visas from citizens of OIS countries, or did have such a policy prior to 11 September 2001.
 - (5) Is he able to say whether Malaysia has changed its policy on no visas from citizens of OIS countries since the arrest of al-Qaeda and JI operatives in Malaysia, referred to in part (1), if so, what is the new policy.
 - (6) Is he also able to say whether any countries referred to in part (4) have changed their policies; if so, what are these new policies.
- 1268 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he able to say whether in late 2001 the Indonesian Government agreed to make zakat tax deductible to encourage charitable donation.

- (2) Can he confirm that non-government organisations and charities in Indonesia and Saudi Arabia are not audited or regulated, thus allowing for the division of funds for terrorist cells, unlike NGOs and charities in Australia.
- (3) Can he confirm that the al-Qaeda network's initial entry into the South East Asian region was through Islamic charities, especially the al Haramain Islamic Foundation, based in Saudi Arabia.
- (4) Is he aware of this al Qaeda /JI aligned charity operating in Australia
- 1269 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many tertiary students for the 2002 academic year were in receipt of (a) Youth Allowance payments, (b) Austudy payments and (c) Abstudy payments.
- (2) How many of those students receive (a) Youth Allowance payments and income from scholarships, (b) Youth Allowance payments and Commonwealth funded scholarships, (c) Austudy payments and income from scholarships, (d) Austudy payments and income from Commonwealth funded scholarships, (e) Abstudy payments and income from scholarships and (f) Abstudy payments and income from Commonwealth funded scholarships.
- 1271 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of television black spots in the electoral division of Stirling.
- (2) Are there any plans for another round of black spot funds to be made available; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (3) What is the most recent information the Minister has on television reception in the electoral division of Stirling, with particular reference to the suburbs of Scarborough, Carine, Balga and Balcatta.
- (4) How old is the most recent edition of the "Field Contour Map of Television and Radio Signals".
- (5) How relevant is this information today.
- (6) Are there any plans to re-survey television black spots in the future.
- (7) What agency would perform such a task.
- (8) Are there any other avenues available to residents in the electoral division of Stirling to gain funding for re-transmission equipment, in order to improve their television reception.
- 1273 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of allegations that the contractor responsible for the drainage works at the immigration detention facility at Baxter removed a number of trees on and around the site.
- (2) Has this site been subject to re-forestation efforts, with assistance from Greening Australia, in recent years.
- (3) Was the contractor required to rethink its approach to the drainage.
- (4) What was the additional cost caused by the contractor having to re-do the drainage arrangements.
- 1274 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Was he reported in *The Age* on 10 November 2001, in relation to the asylum seekers falsely accused of throwing their children overboard, that there was no way that this group would be brought to the Australian mainland or would reach the Australian mainland through those efforts; if so, have any asylum seekers from that boat come to Australia; if so, (a) how many, (b) when and (c) what are their nationalities.
- 1276 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Further to the 2002 Budget reference to the as-yet-unconstructed Brisbane facility whose costings are marked "Not for publication", has the Government abandoned its plans to build this facility; if not, why are its costs marked "Not for publication".
- 1277 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Further to raids by his Department on a Sydney construction company called Crown International, is he aware of allegations that despite three occasions in the past year on which it has been raided and his Department has found foreigners working illegally, no action has been taken in relation to the employer.
- (2) Has any action been taken in relation to the employer; if not, why not.
- 1279 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Does Clayton Utz continue to provide litigation services to his Department.
- (2) Is he able to say whether the Clayton Utz website describes Prof McMillan as one of Australia's leading authorities on administrative and constitutional law.

- (3) In 2002 did Professor McMillan appear in the media defending the Minister and his Department; if so, in doing so should Professor McMillan disclose that he is a paid representative of the law firm that provides legal services to his Department.
- 1280 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—For the last year for which data is available, what proportion of Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) clients exited the program (a) after they had achieved a functional level of English, (b) after they had completed the maximum number of hours of tuition that they were entitled to receive or (c) for some other reason.
- 1281 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) Do the guidelines adopted by the Ministerial Committee on Government Communications require that at least 7.5% of the budget for Commonwealth newspaper and radio advertising campaigns must be devoted to non-English newspapers and radio stations.
 - (2) Does the Government Communications Unit monitor compliance with this requirement by individual portfolios; if so, how does this monitoring occur.
 - (3) What was the estimated total amount of campaign advertising by the Commonwealth in 2001-02 (a) in newspapers, (b) on radio and (c) on television.
 - (4) For the same period, what was the estimated total amount of campaign advertising by the Commonwealth (a) in non-English newspapers, (b) on non-English radio stations and (c) on non-English television stations.
 - (5) Does the Government have a policy of requiring non-English newspapers that carry paid advertising from the Commonwealth to verify their circulation; if so, what form of verification is required from them; if not, has the Ministerial Committee given consideration to the need for such a requirement.

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- *1282 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1027 (*Hansard*, 11 December 2002, page 9950), how many full-time equivalent positions does his Department currently fund for each Migrant Resource Centre and Migrant Service Agency in terms of (a) core funding and (b) project funding under the Community Settlement Services Scheme.
 - (2) Are there any local government areas within the Sydney and Melbourne metropolitan areas that are not currently covered by a Migrant Resource Centre or Migrant Service Agency; if so, for each such local government area what was the recorded number of (a) humanitarian stream arrivals and (b) family stream arrivals from English Proficiency group 3 and 4 countries in 2001-2002.
- *1283 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Is a person who takes out unemployment insurance ineligible for unemployment benefits upon retrenchment.
 - (2) Is such a person also ineligible to receive training assistance from Centrelink; if so, why.
 - (3) How many persons approached Centrelink in 2002 for training assistance but were refused because they were not in receipt of unemployment benefits.
- *1284 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Further to Table 1 on page 7 of his discussion paper on university finances titled “Setting firm foundations” listing distributions of HECS debts, can he, in the same format, list the number of HECS debtors in each band of debt by the year in which they most recently incurred a HECS debt.
 - (2) What is the basis of the projections contained in Table 2.6 of the Higher Education report for the 2002 to 2004 Triennium at page 82.
 - (3) What are the projections through to 2010.
 - (4) What proportion of each category in Table 2.6 is attributable to (a) past, (b) existing and (c) future students.
- *1285 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did he tell the House (*Hansard*, 12 March 2002, page 995) that in his view ministerial staff are accountable to the Minister and the Minister is accountable to the Parliament.
 - (2) At what point prior to 10 November 2001 did he have conversations with any Minister, staff member or Commonwealth official which cast doubt on whether children from SIEV4 had been thrown overboard as suggested by the Government on 7 October 2001.

- (3) Did he have a conversation with Defence Minister Reith on or about 12 October 2001 which went to the veracity of the original report and whether or not subsequent evidence in the form of videos, photos, witness statements or defence reports failed to sustain the original allegation.
- (4) In his conversation with Defence Minister Reith on 7 November 2001, did the Minister mention an earlier conversation with the Acting Chief of the Defence Force, Air Marshal Angus Houston; if so, did the Minister's conversation include any expression of doubt over whether or not children had been thrown overboard as indicated in initial Government statements.
- (5) How many conversations did he have with the Defence Minister's aide, Michael Scrafton, on 7 November 2001 and for how long were those conversations.
- (6) Did those conversations at any point carry the implication that one or both parties were aware that neither videos, photos or witness statements provided evidence that children were thrown overboard because none, in fact, had been.
- (7) In his conversations with Mr Scrafton, was any mention made of the photos of the alleged incident previously released by the Government being not in fact photos of children who had been thrown into the water on 7 October 2001.
- (8) During his press conference of 19 February 2002 did he suggest that he might have had a different recollection of the context of the conversation than Mr Scrafton.
- (9) Given his statement that Ministers are responsible for staff, does Mr Scrafton's recollection of the conversations include a wider discussion than one simply about the video of the alleged event.
- (10) Does Mr Scrafton's recollection include a belief that the character of their conversations was underpinned by an assumption on the part of the parties that there was no veracity in the claim that children had been thrown overboard.
- (11) Did he say at his press conference on 19 February 2002 that on 7 November 2001 he had asked Miles Jordana to go through the material he had already seen or the office had received.
- (12) Did any of that material include papers or other documentation about the SIEV4 incident which made no mention of children being thrown overboard.
- (13) What documents, videos, photos or witness statements were drawn to his attention either directly, or in oral briefings, from this process.
- (14) What information did they contain on whether or not evidence verified the initial government statements.
- (15) Who briefed him on this material.
- (16) When did Mr Jordana, or any one else in his office, become aware that there was no evidence in videos, photos, or defence reports for the proposition that children on SIEV4 had been thrown overboard.
- (17) Did he in any conversation with staff, ministerial colleagues or public servants indicate that he would rather not be briefed on the full circumstances of the SIEV4 children overboard story prior to 10 November 2001.
- (18) Did he ask Mr Jordana or any other staff member in the days after the initial report to verify the facts around the interception and sinking of SIEV4 and present them to him.
- (19) Did any talking points received by him from his staff, the Department of Defence, or his Department mention the SIEV4 incident; if so, what was the content of that reference.
- (20) On 7 November 2001, or at any time afterwards, did Mr Jordana inform him of advice that he had received from Ms Jane Halton regarding doubt the Department had that the photos received, and made public, of the SIEV4 incident verified that children had been thrown overboard.
- (21) On how many occasions (a) prior to and (b) after 10 November 2001 did he discuss with Ms Halton the children overboard incident and in relation to each discussion, what were the dates of their discussions and what advice did Ms Halton provide to him.
- (22) On how many occasions (a) prior to and (b) after 10 November 2001 did he discuss with Mr Max Moore-Wilton the children overboard incident and in relation to each discussion, what were the dates of their discussions and what advice did Mr Moore-Wilton provide to him.

*1286 **MS HALL:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has he proposed to increase the number of marriage celebrants by approximately 800 per year; if so, what impact will the increase have.

- (2) How will the increase impact upon the viability of marriage celebrants given that statistics issued by his Department indicate that in 2001 the number of weddings per 1000 head of population was at its lowest since 1901.
- *1287 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 565 (*Hansard*, 27 August 2002, page 5896), what are the names of the companies whose applications to the Strategic Investment Coordinator (a) have been declined, (b) have been withdrawn, (c) are on hold and (d) are under assessment.
- *1288 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade—
- (1) How many exporters obtaining grants over \$60,000 under the Export Market Development Grants (EMDG) scheme received only 75.62% of their second tranche entitlement in 2001-2002 for grant year 2000-2001.
 - (2) What were the reasons for this.
 - (3) Have EMDG applications increased by 20% this year for grant year 2001-2002, as claimed by the Export Consultants Association; if so, will this result in approximately 1000 EMDG applicants receiving only 50% of their second tranche entitlement for grant year 2001-2002.
 - (4) Has Austrade or his Department made any estimate for grant year 2001-2002 of the likely number of EMDG applicants and what proportion of second tranche entitlement those applicants obtaining more than \$60,000 will receive; if so, what are the results of this estimate.
- *1289 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade—
- (1) Over the last five years has Australia exported more than 8.8 million tonnes of wheat to Iraq.
 - (2) What are the ramifications of a loss of exports of this magnitude to Australia's balance of trade and to the grain industry in Australia.
 - (3) What steps has he taken to ensure that Australia's trading arrangements with Iraq, particularly grain trading, will not be placed in long term jeopardy should war with Iraq proceed.
 - (4) What assurances has he sought that following any military intervention in Iraq, Australian wheat sales to Iraq will not be displaced by US wheat either commercially or in the form of food aid.
 - (5) Has he received any such assurances from the US.
- *1290 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—
- (1) What revenue is currently raised per annum from the 15% automotive tariff.
 - (2) What revenue does the Government expect will be raised per annum once the automotive tariff falls to (a) 10% in 2005 and (b) 5% in 2010.
- *1291 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—
- (1) Further to his statement made on ABC Radio National on 30 June 2002 in relation to projects assessed under the Strategic Investment Coordination process and the need for a cost benefit analysis, will he release the cost-benefit analyses of the projects that have received government assistance under the Strategic Investment Coordination process; if not, why not.
 - (2) Will he release the results of the cost-benefit analyses of these projects in terms of net jobs created and net additions to national income; if not, why not.
- *1292 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a recent case where a member of the public alleged that a private testing laboratory altered the results of tests carried out on engineering equipment and also alleged that the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) failed to adequately investigate those complaints
 - (2) What investigations or reviews has NATA undertaken in that particular case.
 - (3) What were the results of those reviews or investigations.
 - (4) What involvement has he had in addressing complaints concerning NATA's independence in investigating such allegations.
 - (5) What role has his Department had in these matters.
 - (6) Is he satisfied with the reviews carried out by NATA.
 - (7) What measures are in place to ensure that NATA maintains sufficient independence from the companies it accredits, monitors and investigates.

- (8) Does the use of a private, non-profit body like NATA to monitor Australia's testing and laboratory facilities compromise the quality and safety of Australia's standards and conformance regime; if not, why not.
- (9) Is he able to say whether in one case an executive of a company being investigated by NATA was also a member of the NATA Board and had access to correspondence concerning complaints about the company and NATA.
- (10) Did that executive attend NATA Board meetings when the complaints against the executive's company and NATA were discussed.
- (11) Did this person take part in NATA Board discussions on these matters and was the person involved in NATA's decisions on these matters.
- (12) Under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Commonwealth and NATA, what powers does the Commonwealth have to monitor and supervise NATA's role and activities.
- (13) Is the Government aware of any other cases where testing companies have failed to meet the standards set by NATA.
- (14) What action has been taken by NATA on these occasions.
- (15) How many such cases have there been.
- (16) Is he able to say how widespread is non-compliance with NATA standards by testing laboratories and companies; if not, are there plans to assess testing companies' compliance with NATA standards.
- (17) Has the Commonwealth conducted evaluations of NATA's effectiveness in monitoring Australia's testing standards; if so, what were the results of those evaluations.
- (18) What powers are available to NATA to enforce its testing standards, and what disciplinary options are available to NATA against non-compliant companies.
- (19) How often have these powers been used.

*1293 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has he made statements about the need to prevent Iraq from providing terrorists with weapons of mass destruction.
- (2) In the 21 years since Iraq has had weapons of mass destruction, to which terrorist organisations has the Government of Iraq provided weapons of mass destruction, and when did it do so.

*1294 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has he made statements about the need to prevent Iraq from providing terrorists with weapons of mass destruction (WMD).
- (2) Has his attention been drawn to the text of a letter from George Tenet, Director of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in which Mr Tenet argues that Saddam is more likely to assist terrorists with WMD in the event of a US first strike against Iraq; if so, why does he argue the case for a pre-emptive strike against Iraq as the best means of preventing Saddam providing WMD to terrorists.
- (3) Has his attention also been drawn to statements by the Defence Minister on 27 November 2002 who, when asked for the Minister's reaction to a letter from the Director of the CIA arguing that Saddam Hussein was likely to be much less constrained in adopting terrorist actions involving chemical and biological weapons in the event of a US-led attack, Senator Hill said that the views had not been verified.
- (4) Does he share the view of the Defence Minister that the CIA views on the impact of a US first strike on Iraqi behaviour in providing WMD to terrorists cannot be verified.

*1295 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to his comments of 1 December 2002 about Australian support for a doctrine of pre-emption against somebody that he believed was going to launch an attack against Australia, is it the Government's view that Iraq is going to launch an attack against this country.
- (2) Is it the Government's view that a terrorist organisation supported by Iraq is going to launch an attack against this country.

*1296 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report on 30 November 2002 in *The Sydney Morning Herald* that stated that would-be terrorists linked to Jemaah Islamiyah conducted training at properties in the Blue Mountains and Western Australia and targeted university students as prime recruits.
- (2) When questioned on this matter, did he state that he did not have any information to that effect.

- (3) Has he yet received information to that effect; if so, has he contacted *The Sydney Morning Herald* since 7 December 2002 to correct the record on this most serious of national security questions.
- *1297 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did the Defence Minister suggest that Australian SAS forces could work with Indonesian Kopassus forces.
 - (2) Since then, has Indonesia on a number of occasions ruled out the possibility of such cooperation, including comments by the Indonesian Foreign Ministry that Indonesia would not accept the presence of foreign military on its soil and the Indonesian Chargé d'Affaires' statement that it is not possible.
 - (3) During Senate Estimates, did the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade advise of reported links between the Islamic terrorist organisation Laskar Jihad and Kopassus.
 - (4) How can the Government still be considering joint Kopassus/SAS operations in Indonesia when the Government of Indonesia is demonstrably opposed to such a proposal.
- *1298 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is the Government aware of a report by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences that predicts that the costs of a war on Iraq could be as much as US\$1.9 trillion.
 - (2) Has the Government done assessments of the likely impact on the Australian and global economies of a conflict with Iraq; if so, what are the details of these assessments.
- *1299 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a news report on 6 December 2002 that the senior Austrade official for South East Asia, Mr Michael Moignard, had said that the threat of terrorist attacks against Australian exporters shipping to countries throughout South East Asia has increased since the Bali attacks on 12 October 2002.
 - (2) What intelligence has the Government received to justify the Australian Trade Commission issuing such a view.
 - (3) If the Australian Government has not received information about such a threat, on what grounds has Austrade been issuing this advice.
 - (4) If the Government has received advice, what advice is it now giving to Australian businesses operating throughout the region and how is this advice different to that advice provided in the (a) period prior to 12 October and (b) 4 weeks after 12 October.
 - (5) What is the level of impact on Australian business confidence to the ongoing terrorist threats against Australia and Australian interests throughout the region.
- *1300 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What is the Government's assessment of the impact on Australia's relations of the Prime Minister's comments in support of pre-emptive strikes against the sovereign territories of other nations in the region.
 - (2) Has his attention been drawn to comments from the Malaysian Foreign Minister on 7 December 2002 concerning the announcement of the new Howard doctrine.
 - (3) What is the Government doing to mend relations with our ASEAN neighbours.
 - (4) What is the Government doing to ensure that at the next ASEAN-ARF meeting, ASEAN countries do not need to address the issue of Australia's threatening posture toward the region.
- *1301 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What does the Government consider as grounds that could be used to justify under international law the use of a pre-emptive strike.
 - (2) Has the Government conducted any analysis in support of a change to international law so that a pre-emptive strike can be justified under the UN Charter's provisions on self-defence; if so, what has been the content of that analysis.
- *1302 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the Prime Minister's statement on 1 December 2002 about the circumstances under which Australia would be justified in undertaking a pre-emptive military strike against the territory of a neighbouring state.
 - (2) Did he state on 8 December 2002 that the only circumstances under which Australia would contemplate a pre-emptive military strike against a neighbouring state was if that state was aiding and abetting terrorists.

- (3) Which states around the world does he believe are currently aiding and abetting terrorists and which states therefore would justify consideration for the application of a pre-emptive military strike.
- (4) Will the Government rule out once and for all the possibility of Australia launching a pre-emptive military strike against any of its neighbours in South East Asia.

*1303 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has he made statements after the Bali bombings about the paramount importance of working conjointly and cooperatively with regional Governments in a combined effort against terrorism in South East Asia, including the convening of a regional conference for Bali in December for the purposes of developing regional cooperative relationships for dealing with terrorism in South East Asia.
- (2) Has his attention been drawn to statements coming out of the region such as those by The Philippines National Security Adviser Roilo Golez who said that in view of the Prime Minister's statement, Mr Golez has recommended that The Philippines review and go slow on the proposed anti-terror pact with Australia because it might be used for a pre-emptive strike agenda.
- (3) If so, how does he reconcile his and Mr Golez's statements.
- (4) Is the Prime Minister's statement on 1 December 2002 on the new Howard doctrine of Australian military pre-emption in South East Asia now fundamentally undermining Australia's pre-existing policy of working conjointly and cooperatively with the Government's of South East Asia with the common objective of eliminating terrorism within our region.

*1304 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he able to say why the Prime Minister's announcement of the new Howard doctrine of Australian military pre-emption in South East Asia on 1 December 2002 did not contain within it an explicit precondition that Australia would only act militarily within South East Asia in cooperation with the relevant Government in the region.
- (2) Did he state on the ABC's *World Today* program on 2 December 2002 that he would hope that an attack would be done through regional co-operation.
- (3) Given that the Prime Minister's statement about the new doctrine does not contain within it any precondition that Australia would first obtain the consent of regional governments before acting militarily but his statement about the new doctrine does contain such a precondition, does he or the Prime Minister speak for Australia on this fundamental question of national security policy.

*1305 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report by American academic Dr Zachary Abuza first released in February 2002 who claims that al Qaeda has been active in the South East Asian region for the last ten years.
- (2) When was the Australian Government first made aware of the report by Dr Abuza on al Qaeda's well-established network of terrorist cells in South East Asia.
- (3) Did the Australian embassy in Washington first ask for a copy of the report in August 2002 and has the Australian Federal Police been receiving updated versions of this report.
- (4) What action did the Government take upon receipt of this report, given its detailed analysis of the extent of al Qaeda cells across South East Asia not just months but years prior to the Bali bombing.
- (5) Given the Government committed this country militarily to the elimination of al Qaeda in Afghanistan in November 2001, and given the knowledge that al Qaeda operatives were already well established in the region, what was the Australian Government's assessment of the likely al Qaeda retaliation through its cells in South-East Asia to the tens of thousands of Australians living in South-East Asia at that time.
- (6) When did the Government conclude that Australians were much more likely to become the target of al Qaeda operatives already well established in the region.

*1306 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is it a fact that among the 45 countries to nominate for the bench of the International Criminal Court (ICC) were nominations from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Cambodia, Nigeria, Mongolia, Mali and the United Republic of Tanzania.
- (2) Was there any person in Australia worthy of a nomination to the bench of the ICC.
- (3) What was the basis on which the Government decided against submitting a nomination to the Bench of the ICC.

- (4) Did the Government submit a nomination for the position of Chief Prosecutor to the ICC.
 - (5) Does the Government believe that it has a better chance of getting the position of Chief Prosecutor rather than the position of Judge to the ICC; if so, why.
 - (6) What lobbying efforts did Australia engage in to have its nomination for Chief Prosecutor succeed.
 - (7) What sum was spent on the campaign for the position of Chief Prosecutor.
 - (8) Did Australia enter into informal or other agreements to support nominations of other countries for the position of Judge to the ICC; if so, with which countries and for what was this support in exchange.
 - (9) Was this support conditional on support being received for Australia's nomination for the position of Chief Prosecutor.
- *1307 MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is the Government's position in support of the creation of the new area of international law in favour of military pre-emption as expressed by the new Howard doctrine on regional pre-emptive military action, valid for Australia and is it also applicable for other countries to apply it in the region.
 - (2) What consideration has the Government given to the application of the new Howard doctrine on regional pre-emptive military action by other countries in the South East Asian region.
 - (3) Would the Government support pre-emptive use of military force by Indonesia's Special Forces, Kopassus, against organisations seeking independence such as the Free Papua Movement (OPM) and their support networks based on Australian soil.
- *1308 MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In his meeting with ASEAN Heads of Mission on 5 December 2002, did he rule out the option of regional pre-emptive military action by Australia to security threats to Australians or did he leave the door open to the possibility that regional pre-emptive military action may be a possibility into the future.
 - (2) Given the diplomatic fallout, why did it take him four days to meet with the ASEAN Heads of Mission and explain the Government's new policy position.
- *1309 MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the report by Dr Zachary Abuza that al Qaeda established cells in the South-East Asian region in The Philippines in 1991, Indonesia in 1999, Singapore in the mid to late 1990s and Malaysia in 1993.
 - (2) Given that the Abuza report was prepared originally in February 2002 and that it is based in part on allied intelligence assessments of al Qaeda in the South-East Asian region prepared around the time that Australia sent Australian soldiers to Afghanistan, what was the Government's prior knowledge of the extent of al Qaeda's network in the South-East Asian region.
 - (3) Did the Government assess the possibility that Australians in the region would be at a greater threat at the time the Government's decision to commit Australian forces against al Qaeda in Afghanistan.
 - (4) Did the Government adjust travel advisories at this time for the South East Asian countries to factor this assessment into account; if not, why not.
- *1310 MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Did he state on 22 October 2002 that the Government's policy was one which required Australia to work intimately with the governments of the region, including Indonesia, against the common enemy of terrorism.
 - (2) Are regional governments such as Indonesia more or less likely to work with Australia against the common enemy of terrorism, now that the Government has announced a doctrine of pre-emption, whereby Australia in the future now contemplates the possibility of launching a military attack against the territory of Indonesia.
- *1311 MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Did he state on 6 November 2002 that a training relationship between Australia's SAS and Indonesia's Special Forces was inappropriate given the human rights abuses by Kopassus.
 - (2) Did he refuse to rule out the re-establishment of some relationship with Kopassus on the ABC AM program on the same day.
 - (3) Are his statements inconsistent; if so, which statement on a future relationship between the Australian SAS and Indonesia's Kopassus of 6 November 2002 correctly reflects the Government's position.

*1312 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—What is Australia doing diplomatically, in company with other like-minded nations, to try to alleviate the imminent threat of severe famine in Zimbabwe.

*1313 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to reported statements to the Australian media by the Prime Minister on 2 and 7 August 2002 that the Prime Minister thought it fair that Mr David Hicks, captured while fighting in the Taliban forces in Afghanistan in December 2001 and held without charge in a US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, should continue to be held there indefinitely without charges being laid, given the circumstances of Afghanistan; if so, does he share this view.
- (2) Does he also share in the Prime Minister's reported satisfaction, on the basis of information the Prime Minister had been given, about Mr Hicks' physical wellbeing.
- (3) Was this information supplied to the Prime Minister by his Department, pursuant to its consular responsibilities for the welfare of Australian citizens detained abroad; if not, is he able to say what agency supplied this information to the Prime Minister.
- (4) Is he able to confirm whether, as reported in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 2 August 2002, (a) the Attorney-General wrote to Mr Hicks' lawyer in Australia saying that Australia has indicated to the US that it is appropriate that Mr Hicks remain in US military custody with other detainees while Australia works through complex legal issues and conducts further investigations and (b) a spokeswoman for the Attorney-General said Australia was still investigating Mr Hicks to determine whether Mr Hicks could be charged under Australian law and could not press for Mr Hicks' release until this was completed.
- (5) Why does Mr Hicks continue to be detained at Guantanamo Bay, where a US judge recently ruled that Mr Hicks is outside the range of any possible US judicial appeal, because Guantanamo Bay is not sovereign US territory.
- (6) How many consular visits has Mr Hicks received in the 11 months that Mr Hicks has been in detention in Guantanamo Bay.
- (7) What were the dates of these visits.
- (8) What is the normal frequency of consular visits to Australian citizens held in overseas jails or other places of detention, in countries with which Australia enjoys normal diplomatic and consular relations, similar to what Australia does with the US and with Cuba.
- (9) Is he able to confirm claims by Mr Hicks' Australian lawyer, as reported in Australian media, that Mr Hicks is being held in solitary confinement in a cage, with only two 15 minute exercise periods per week, and allowed to write only one postcard to Mr Hicks' family every two months, and not allowed to receive mail or visits from Mr Hicks' family.
- (10) Are these acceptable or fair conditions for any Australian citizen to be detained under, either in Australia or overseas, while awaiting a possible trial under any charge.
- (11) When will he exercise his responsibilities as Australia's Foreign Minister in charge of Australian consular services to protect Mr Hicks' welfare and consular rights as an Australian being detained abroad.

*1314 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Should Mr Mamdouh Habib, an Australian citizen who was arrested in Pakistan 10 months ago on suspicion of involvement with international terrorism, and has been held without charge in a US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba since April 2002, continue to be held there indefinitely without charges being laid against Mr Habib.
- (2) Does he have up-to-date information on Mr Habib's wellbeing; if so, has his Department conveyed such information promptly and regularly to Mr Habib's wife and children in Australia; if so, on what dates has Mr Habib's family been so informed.
- (3) Why does Mr Habib continue to be detained at Guantanamo Bay, where a US judge recently ruled that Mr Habib is outside the range of any possible United States judicial appeal, because Guantanamo Bay is not sovereign US territory.
- (4) What are the dates of Australian consular visits to Mr Habib during Mr Habib's reported detention at Guantanamo Bay since April 2002.
- (5) What is the normal frequency of consular visits to Australian citizens held in overseas jails or other places of detention, in countries with which Australia enjoys normal diplomatic and consular relations, similar to what Australia does with the US and with Cuba.

- (6) What are the conditions of Mr Habib's detention, access to exercise and ability to send mail to, and receive mail from, Mr Habib's family in Australia.
- (7) Are these acceptable conditions for any Australian citizen to be detained under, either in Australia or overseas, while awaiting a possible trial under any charge.
- *1315 MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In regard to Australia's policy of limited engagement with the SPDC regime in Burma and the consequential international legitimacy implied by this engagement, what was the framework used to develop human rights training with Burma.
 - (2) What is the evaluation process of this training.
 - (3) What is the monitoring process of the human rights training.
 - (4) Who is conducting this monitoring.
 - (5) What are the expected outcomes.
 - (6) When will they be delivered.
 - (7) Is the military the main perpetrator of human rights abuse in Burma; if so, why is this human rights training not including any military personnel.
 - (8) What is the Australian Government doing to address the needs of the 630,000 plus internally displaced people forced to flee their traditional lands by the brutal SPDC regime.
 - (9) Further to the report "Licence to Rape", what is the Australian Government doing to address the systematic sexual violence and abuse committed by the Burmese military against Burmese women on a daily basis.
 - (10) Further to the assistance provided by the Thai Government towards the 150-200,000 Shan refugees and by the Australian Government to the Mon, Karen and Koreni refugees living in the Thai/Burma border camps, what assistance is the Australian Government giving to the Shan ethnic people also forced to flee the oppressive SPDC regime of their homeland and who are living on the Thai-Burma border.
 - (11) Further to the answer to a question on notice from the AusAID/Treasury-NGO roundtable of 29 October 2002, where AusAID replied that the Government would be pleased to see the Asian Development Bank (ADB) consider options to establish an operational strategy for Burma in consultation with the Bank's Board of Directors, would encouraging the ADB to engage with the SPDC regime extend to that regime a degree of international legitimacy and further entrench the regime rather than encourage pro-democracy reforms as is the oft-stated position of the Government.
- *1316 MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What was the amount of funding from the Commonwealth to (a) Griffith University, (b) the Queensland University of Technology and (c) the University of Queensland in (i) 1996, (ii) 1997, (iii) 1998, (iv) 1999, (v) 2000, (vi) 2001 and (vii) 2002.
 - (2) Is there evidence that the States had agreed to a cessation of Commonwealth funding in 2002; if so, what is it.
- *1317 MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2194 (*Hansard*, 7 June 2001, page 27661) concerning Roads to Recovery program funding, for each year of operation of the program, which local government authorities (LGAs) have not certified that expenditure on roads funded from its own sources in a particular funding year has not been less than the average of the amounts expended on roads from these sources over the years 1998-99 to 2000-2001.
 - (2) Does his Department validate the information contained in the certifications by LGAs; if so, what are the validation processes; if not, does any other organisation audit LGA expenditure on roads.
 - (3) How many LGAs have had their certification validated.
 - (4) What are the results of the validation processes undertaken.
 - (5) What was the total LGA expenditure on roads in (a) 1998-99 and (b) 2001-2002.
 - (6) What was the total Roads to Recovery expenditure on roads by LGAs in 2001-2002.
- *1318 MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—What was the total cost to the Commonwealth of the by-election for the electoral division of Cunningham on 19 October 2002, including the costs incurred by the Australian Electoral Commission to conduct the ballot and election funding payments to each political party in accordance with the Commonwealth Electoral Act.

*1319 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What revenue does Telstra derive annually from 190 numbers.
- (2) What revenue does Telstra derive annually from all international premium rate billing services.
- (3) Can Telstra provide a breakdown on the annual revenue derived from different categories of 190 numbers, including chat, friendship, sex, psychic and information numbers.
- (4) Does Telstra check 190 number service providers to ensure they are not providing services that are illegal; if so, what checks are made; if not, why not.
- (5) What checks does Telstra make on other premium rate billing services, including internet service providers, to ensure that the content such services are providing is not illegal.
- (6) Has Telstra considered terminating service agreements with 190 number providers, including Mediatel Services and Sound Advertising, who have had a large number of breaches against the Telephone Information Services Standards Council code of practice; if not, why not.
- (7) What steps does Telstra have in place to ensure that customers do not receive unexpectedly huge bills as a result of using 190 numbers and other premium rate billing services.

*1320 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How confident is the Government that 1902 numbers advertising such things as “fantasy stories”, “anything goes” and “submissive ladies” are not telephone sex services.
- (2) Are telephone sex services meant to use the 1901 pin number system under Part 9A of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*.
- (3) Further to the Minister’s media release entitled “Protecting Consumers from Internet Dumping”, dated 8 November 2002, at what stage are the Government and the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) at in implementing the package of measures to prevent unexpected high telephone bills and Internet dumping.
- (4) What progress has been made on each measure announced in the media release.
- (5) In regard to the ACA being directed to bar access to 190 premium service numbers once a premium rate bill exceeds a certain amount per month, has this measure been introduced and what is the prescribed amount; if the measure has not been introduced, why not and when will it be introduced.
- (6) Further to part (5), why did the Government choose to implement credit limits for 190 numbers only when consumers are also running up huge unexpected phone bills from overseas 0011 numbers.
- (7) Has the Government considered directing carriers to implement general optional credit limits on all consumer phone accounts for all billable services; if not, why not.

*1321 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Did the September 2001 report of the Rural Radio Inquiry recommend that the Minister should consider that, for the proposed trials for digital radio broadcasting in regional and remote areas, the potential for satellite digital radio technology should be considered.
- (2) Did the December 2002 report of the Radiocommunications Review note that the accessibility to, and development of, satellite-based communications is of particular economic and social importance in Australia.
- (3) Has satellite digital sound broadcasting been available to most of the world for more than two years.
- (4) Can trials be commenced immediately in north-west Australia using affordable satellite digital radio equipment.
- (5) Has satellite digital radio broadcasting the capability to provide early universal service coverage to all of Australia and its territories and to facilitate the early entry of new radio broadcasting interests.
- (6) What is the Government’s position on conducting trials of satellite digital sound broadcasting, and the application of, and the timetable for introducing, satellite digital radio technology in metropolitan, regional and remote areas.
- (7) Did Australia in 1994 through DBStar satellite notification 151.5E require the International Telecommunication Union to reserve a satellite orbit position for Australia to provide satellite digital sound broadcasting services to Australia.
- (8) Does the Minister’s department now want to suppress this notification.

- (9) If the DBStar notification is suppressed, will it set back the introduction of satellite digital sound broadcasting to Australia by at least five years.
 - (10) Has satellite digital radio broadcasting the capability to provide early universal service coverage to all of Australia and its territories, and to facilitate the early entry of new radio broadcasting interest.
 - (11) Why is the Government proposing to suppress the DBStar satellite notification.
 - (12) What is the current Government vision for early access to universal service coverage for digital radio to metropolitan, regional and remote areas.
- *1322 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Does the lease for (a) Essendon Airport, (b) Sydney Airport and (c) Melbourne Airport require a certain level of security; if so, what are the security requirements; if not, why not.
 - (2) Are there security arrangements in place for every airfield in Australia.
- *1323 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Are the main tax concessions for farmers to promote sustainable land use (a) accelerated depreciation for water management costs, with full depreciation over three years, (b) the Landcare deduction for conservation related capital works, with full deduction in the year that the expense was incurred and (c) the Landcare offset conservation related capital works rebate if not eligible for the Landcare deduction.
 - (2) Is the cost of these concessions around \$20m per annum; if not what is the cost of these concessions.
 - (3) Has any assessment or monitoring of the environmental benefit of these concessions being carried out; if so, what has been its conclusion.
 - (4) Has he considered any alternative funding arrangements or tax concessions to promote sustainable land use; if so, what alternative ideas has he considered.
 - (5) Can he provide an estimate of the cost to revenue of taxing farmer's income based on the proportion of their land which is cleared, for example, farmers whose land is 90% cleared pay tax on 90% of their income, and farmers whose land is 10% cleared pay tax on 10% of their income.
- *1324 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Will he provide a breakdown of the 1324 Envirofund projects by (a) type, including water quality, protection of native vegetation, salinity, coastal erosion, (b) electoral division and (c) amount.
- *1325 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) What, if anything, is he doing about the Mooka Traditional Owners' Council's application for a section 9 emergency declaration to protect Lake Cowal under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act.
 - (2) Has he considered the application; if so, what was the outcome of his consideration and on what basis was an outcome reached.
- *1326 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Does the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust have any policies concerning conflict of interest in relation to its Community Advisory Committee.
 - (2) Do any members of the Community Advisory Committee have a professional, financial or commercial interest in organisations with an association with the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust's properties, activities or projects.
 - (3) Are members of the Community Advisory Committee required to complete a Declaration of Conflict of Interest form.
 - (4) Has the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust sponsored activities carried out by any members of its Community Advisory Committee; if so, which activities and what was the cost of this sponsorship.
- *1327 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) In response to Senate Estimates questions, did he say that the Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO) had not estimated the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions that would be achieved through a prohibition on clearing of "of concern" regional ecosystems on freehold land in Queensland, all remnant native vegetation in Queensland, or remnant native vegetation in areas of Queensland with an identified dryland salinity hazard.
 - (2) Will he direct the AGO to undertake the necessary work to answer these questions.

- *1328 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Have the scientific methods used in development of the Salinity Hazard Maps by the Queensland Government been reviewed by leading scientists from his Department.
 - (2) If so, did these scientists find any fault or flaw in the scientific methods used in the development of the Queensland Salinity Hazard Maps.
 - (3) Do scientists from his Department regard the Queensland Salinity Hazard Maps as accurate.
 - (4) Is there any validity in the querying of the Salinity Hazard Maps engaged in by Queensland National Party politicians.
- *1329 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of studies showing high levels of salinity in urban areas of Australia, in particular the Sydney Basin.
 - (2) Has the Government conducted any studies to assess the impact of increasing salinity on infrastructure in urban environments in Australia.
 - (3) What funding does the Government allocate to address salinity problems in Australia.
 - (4) What proportion of funding to address salinity problems is allocated to salinity problems in urban areas.
 - (5) What steps is the Government taking to address salinity problems in urban areas of Australia.
- *1330 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Further to his reply to question No. 1168 (*Hansard*, 12 December 2002, page 10228), has he seen more recent media reports that Liberal Party identity Mr Tony Staley is likely to replace Mr Michael Kroger as a member of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Board.
 - (2) Why will he not rule out the possibility that the Howard Government might appoint Mr Reith, Mr Staley or other Liberal or National Party identities to the ABC Board.
 - (3) Is it the intention of the Howard Government to politicise ABC appointments; if so, why.
- *1331 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What percentage of judges pay the top marginal rate of income tax.
- *1332 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is he aware of the decision by His Honour Justice Sackville of the Federal Court in the matter of *Prentice v Cummins* (No. 5) (2002) FCA 1503 handed down on 5 December 2002.
 - (2) Is he also aware that, in the reasons for the judgment, Justice Sackville observed that (a) the bankrupt, Mr John Cummins QC, had not lodged any income tax return since about 1955, (b) this omission on the bankrupt's part occurred despite the fact that the bankrupt was admitted as a barrister of the Supreme Court of NSW on 28 April 1961 and was appointed one of Her Majesty's Counsel on 2 December 1980, (c) the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) seems to have done nothing about the bankrupt's failure to lodge income tax returns until the late 1990s and (d) the evidence does not address the reasons for the ATO's apparent inability to ascertain that a barrister, latterly a senior counsel, had apparently managed to carry on a professional practice for nearly 40 years without lodging an income tax return.
 - (3) Why was Mr Cummins only requested by the Taxation Commissioner to lodge income tax returns for the seven years ended 30 June 1992 to 30 June 1999.
 - (4) Is it the custom and practice of the Taxation Commissioner to only demand 4 to 7 years of outstanding returns regardless of how many years a person has failed to lodge an income tax return; if so, why.
 - (5) Why did the Taxation Commissioner give Mr Cummins a tax-free exemption of 38 years.
 - (6) What is the government doing to ensure that the Taxation Commissioner requires Mr Cummins to lodge income tax returns for the period 1955 to 1991.
- *1333 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many telephone calls have been received by the 1800 123 400 hotline for the "Lets look out for Australia" terrorism alert campaign.
 - (2) What is the general nature of calls believed to be genuine.
 - (3) How many calls have been found to be hoax calls.
 - (4) How many calls have been acted upon and by whom.

- (5) What action has been taken by the various authorities in response to those calls believed to be genuine.
- (6) Is the Government satisfied with the public response to its terrorism alert campaign; if so, why; if not, why not.

*1334 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 1109 concerning the state of health of Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston between 9 February 2001 and July 2002, who gave that advice and on how many occasions was advice on this matter given to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).
- (2) What were the date(s) of this advice.
- (3) Was the advice oral, in writing or both.
- (4) Was the advice consistent with the two independent expert medical specialists who examined Dr Colston in May 1999 and who stated that Dr Colston had only months to live.
- (5) What are the qualifications of the persons who gave this advice and are they on the public payroll.
- (6) Further to the reply to part (3) of question No. 1109, where did the medical examination of Dr Colston take place.
- (7) Further to the reply to part (3)(b) of question No. 1109, what did the Professor of Medicine indicate in the report of the examination of Dr Colston on 10 October 2002 in relation to the opinions of the two independent expert medical specialists who examined Dr Colston in May 1999.
- (8) Did the Professor raise any concerns about the diagnosis or prognosis of the medical condition which led to the two independent expert medical specialists who examined Dr Colston in May 1999 to conclude that Dr Colston only had months to live; if so, what were those concerns.
- (9) Did the Professor diagnose any new medical condition suffered by Dr Colston.
- (10) Does the Professor believe Dr Colston is terminally ill.
- (11) What comments did the Professor provide in relation to the details provided to the Professor of the numerous taxpayer-funded motor vehicle and interstate aircraft travel trips made by Dr Colston between July 1999 and May 2002.
- (12) Further to the reply to part (4) of question No. 1109, why is the medical review of Dr Colston since July 2002 still not completed.
- (13) Further to the reply to part (5) of question No. 1109, what assistance has the DPP offered to Dr Colston to provide Dr Colston with the opportunity to clear his name and stand trial on the twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts.

*1335 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the reply to part (7) of question No. 1128, did any surgeon, oncologist, consultant physician, general practitioner, interventional radiologist or gastroenterologist indicate in their reports to the Director of Public Prosecutions an opinion on the life expectancy of Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston; if so, who so indicated.
- (2) Did any of those reports indicate that Dr Colston had only months to live; if so, who so indicated.
- (3) What did each of the other reports indicate in terms of any opinion expressed about the likely life expectancy of Dr Colston.
- (4) Is he able to say whether any of these 7 doctors still holds the view that Dr Colston is terminally ill; if so, which doctors hold that view.
- (5) Is he also able to say whether either of the two independent eminent medical specialists who examined Dr Colston in May 1999 still holds the view that Dr Colston has months to live; if so, which specialist holds that view; if not, what opinions do they now hold about the likely life expectancy of Dr Colston.

*1336 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to his reply to question No. 1129, why did he believe that it was improbable that Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston would give his consent to exercise an exemption under the Privacy Act which would release the medical reports of the two eminent and independent medical specialists who examined Dr Colston in May 1999 in relation to his fitness to stand trial on twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts.
- (2) Has he asked Dr Colston for his consent to the release of those two medical reports; if so when and what was Dr Colston's reply; if not, why not.

- (3) Is he able to say whether the provisions of the Privacy Act to which he refers constitute a compellable power at law on him to exercise that power; if so, upon what basis is that compellable-duty based; if not, why is the statutory power under the Privacy Act to seek the exemption from Dr Colston to consent to the disclosure of the subject information a non-compellable duty.
 - (4) Is the exercise of this power an administrative power held in the hands of himself; if not, what type of power is it.
 - (5) What power does he rely upon to make a decision on a balance of probabilities to refuse to consider the exercise of the statutory power under the Privacy Act to seek the consent of Dr Colston to publicly release the two medical reports.
 - (6) Does the discretionary power to seek the consent of Dr Colston rest with Dr Colston.
 - (7) Will he exercise his power afforded under the Privacy Act; if so, when; if not, why not.
 - (8) In his refusal to exercise his statutory power to seek the consent of Dr Colston to the release of the two medical reports is he able to say whether this could be a breach of power or an error of law; if so, how; if not, why not.
 - (9) What are the reasons that he believes that the public interest of twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel reports is outweighed by the privacy provisions protecting the disclosure of the two medical reports in relation to Dr Colston.
 - (10) In forming his opinion in relation to the weight of balance between the two competing interests, has he exercised an administrative power or a judicial power in his decision not to release the subject information covered by parliamentary privilege; if so, what is that power; if not, why not.
- *1337 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to paragraph 3 of his reply to question No. 1130 that the public interest is not established because something is of interest to the public but a higher standard of serious concern or benefit to the public is required rather than merely of individual interest, why is the matter of the public release of those two medical reports, bearing in mind their relationship to the twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel reports originally brought against Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston, something that is of insufficient concern or benefit to the public.
- *1338 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the reply to question No. 1131, what is the position of the present review being conducted by the Director of Public Prosecutions on Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston.
- *1339 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Further to the reply to part (1) of question No 1132, what are the tests which have been assessed by the independent experts retained by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).
 - (2) What did those tests reveal about the state of health of Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston.
 - (3) Do the independent experts retained by the DPP hold different views from those expressed earlier about the state of health of Dr Colston; if so, what are those views.
 - (4) Are the independent experts retained by the DPP the same experts who examined Dr Colston in May 1999 and on 10 October 2002; if not, who are these experts and what are their qualifications.
 - (5) Further to the reply to part (2) of question No 1132, has the DPP requested a copy of all of the clinical records from doctors and medical institutions who have treated Dr Colston since May 1999; if so, what are these records; if not, why not.
- *1340 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the reply to part (3) of question No. 1133, could the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) subpoena Mr Economou to give evidence if the DPP determines that Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston is now fit to stand trial on twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel reports; if not, why not.
- *1341 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 1149, what was the process followed by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) to locate an independent medical specialist to examine Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston in relation to the present review associated with Dr Colston's fitness to stand trial on twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel reports.
 - (2) Further to the reply to part (3) of question No. 1149, were there any other factors considered by the DPP for a further review of Dr Colston, apart from the passage of time; if so, what were those factors.
 - (3) Further to the reply to part (4) of question No. 1149, did the DPP request the fresh independent expert medical specialist employed by the DPP to also clarify the purported terminal illness of Dr Colston; if not, why not.

- (4) Further to the reply to parts (5), (6), (7), (8) and (10) of question No. 1149, has Dr Colston expressed any reservations to the DPP about his capacity to submit himself for further medical appointments or any other medical tests since he was examined by the Professor of Medicine on 10 October 2002 in relation to establishing his fitness to stand trial on the twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts; if so, what are those reservations.
 - (5) Further to the reply to part (9) of question No. 1149, (a) what does he mean by "arrangements for Dr Colston's attendance", (b) what are the other matters raised by Dr Colston's solicitors and do these matters relate to Dr Colston's capacity to be able to attend for medical examinations and medical tests; if so, what are these matters and (c) could Dr Colston be medically examined or medically tested at home; if not, why not.
 - (6) Further to the reply to part (10) of question No. 1149, where did the medical examination of Dr Colston take place on 10 October 2002.
 - (7) Has a date or dates been scheduled for Dr Colston to be further medically examined or tested; if so, when.
 - (8) Further to the reply to part (11) of question No. 1149, why has no officer of the DPP's office conducted a face-to-face interview with Dr Colston since 1 July 1999.
 - (9) Further to the reply to part (13) of question No. 1149, was the DPP confident of receiving the Professor of Medicine's specialist assessment of Dr Colston before 31 January 2003; if not, why not.
 - (10) Further to the reply to part (14) of question No. 1149, how long after the Professor of Medicine's specialist assessment is received does the DPP believe that the DPP will be in a position to complete the review of Dr Colston's case.
- *1342 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Further to the reply to part (5) of question No 1150 concerning the assessment provided to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) that Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston was unfit to stand trial and that there was no prospect that he would be fit to stand trial in the future, was this assessment also consistent with all of the medical evidence on Dr Colston gathered by the DPP that he was also terminally ill.
 - (2) Has any medical evidence come to light associated with the current review of the case of Dr Colston by the DPP that would suggest or indicate that Dr Colston is not terminally ill; if so, (a) who expressed such views, (b) when were they expressed and (c) what are those views.
- *1343 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 1151 and subject to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) ultimately concluding that Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston would be fit to stand trial on twenty-eight charges of defrauding the Commonwealth through travel rorts, will the DPP recommend to the Court that consideration be given to Dr Colston to attend Court for short periods of time; if not, why not.
- *1344 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the reply to question No. 1169 does Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston still have months to live; if not, what is the latest expert medical assessment of the likely life expectancy of Dr Colston.
- *1345 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is the health insurance industry seeking approval from the Howard Government for an approximate average 6% increase in health insurance premiums.
 - (2) Is the case mounted by the health insurance industry for seeking such health insurance premium increases not because of any significant increase in health care costs but principally due to the benefit outlays associated with the significant increase in the number of claims made to the health funds during 2001-2002.
 - (3) What is the justification for burdening health care contributors because of the failure of the health insurance industry to properly anticipate the hike in health care claims during 2001-2002.
 - (4) Did the Howard Government promise that the 30% health insurance rebate would be a panacea for the longstanding and long-suffering health insurance contributor.
 - (5) What action does the Government propose immediately to bring the health insurance industry to task and, at the same time, also to protect longstanding and long-suffering health insurance contributors.
- *1346 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) How long has the Minister had in her possession a report from the Bankruptcy Taskforce that was established following the investigation and revelations about certain barristers failing to pay their fair

share of taxation by the journalist Mr Paul Barry and published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 26 February 2001.

- (2) Is the Minister aware of the under-reporting by barristers and solicitors to their professional bodies of prosecutions and other matters that require reporting.
- (3) Has the Minister received representations from the NSW Bar Association recommending changes to section 16 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* that would allow professional bodies to better regulate or discipline their members under the New South Wales Legal Profession Act; if so, what action has the Minister taken to change the law; if not, why not.

*1347 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Why is it still lawful to avoid the payment of personal income tax or other tax through the utilisation of bankruptcy or insolvency.
- (2) Has bankruptcy or insolvency become a business tool to permit individuals to avoid their obligations to pay their fair share of tax.
- (3) What is the Government doing to change the law to eliminate this rort.

*1348 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Are passengers who travel with commercial airlines protected by legislation for their costs if the airlines become insolvent; if so, what percentage of those costs are protected.

*1349 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Will the Government ask for public submissions regarding the proposed free trade agreement (FTA) with the US.
- (2) Has the abolition of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), the Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) and the Australian Industrial Relations Commission (AIRC) been placed on the agenda by the US.
- (3) Will the Government weaken Australia's quarantine laws as part of the FTA negotiations.
- (4) Is the Government engaging in dialogue with Japan and ASEAN nations regarding the FTA negotiations with the US.
- (5) What multilateral processes is the Government engaged in to enhance Australia's export prospects.
- (6) Does the Government have any plans to diversify Australia's exports in the Asia-Pacific region.

*1350 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What powers does the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman have to monitor the practices of debt recovery agencies.
- (2) Does the Government intend to review the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman's current power in monitoring debt recovery agencies.
- (3) How many complaints have been lodged with the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman in (a) 2001 and (b) 2002 regarding the practices of debt recovery agencies.
- (4) Is the Government aware of debt recovery agencies using fake court notices to intimidate consumers.
- (5) How many complaints have been lodged against Hutchinson Telecoms (Australia) Pty Ltd in 2002.
- (6) Has the Government been made aware of alleged unreasonable debt recovery practices and failure to keep adequate records by Hutchinson Telecoms (Australia) Pty Ltd.

*1351 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Attorney-General—How many persons in the electoral division of Prospect have been declared bankrupt pursuant to the Bankruptcy Act in (a) 1996-97, (b) 1997-98, (c) 1998-99, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001 and (f) 2001-2002.

*1352 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many persons in the electoral division of Prospect have been participants in the Work for the Dole program in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001 and (d) 2001-2002.
- (2) In the same years, what has been the average time taken for Work for the Dole participants to find full-time work.

*1353 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—

- (1) How many child care centres are located in the electoral division of Prospect.
- (2) How many applications for child care places have been made in the electoral division of Prospect in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 2001-2002.

- (3) How many child care places have been made available in the electoral division of Prospect in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 2001-2002.
- (4) What has been the average cost of a child care place in the electoral division of Prospect in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 2001-2002.

*1354 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has he sought advice in respect to the differential superannuation entitlements of employees working beyond the age of 70.
- (2) Will the Government take legislative or other measures to address the apparently discriminatory treatment of employees after they reach the age of 70.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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.

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

Current inquiry:

Local government and cost shifting.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING: Mr Bartlett (*Chair*), Mr Albanese, Mr Farmer, Ms Gambaro, Mr Johnson, Mrs May, Mr Pearce, Ms Plibersek, Mr Sawford, Mr Sidebottom.

Current inquiry:

Vocational education and training in schools.

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS: Mrs D. M. Kelly (*Chair*), Mr Bevis, Mr Dutton, Ms Hall, Mr Hartsuyker, Mr Lloyd, 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 Quick, Mr C. P. Thomson. (Mr Wakelin to be a supplementary member for the purpose of the inquiry into substance abuse in Australian communities.)

Current inquiries:

Children's developmental health and well being.

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 Fitzgibbon, 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 inquiries:

Adequacy of procedures for examining the estimates of expenditure.

Conduct of divisions.

Proposed revised standing orders.

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, Mr McArthur, Mr Mossfield, Ms O'Byrne, 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.

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

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.

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 inquiries:

Australia's insolvency laws.

Disclosure of commissions on risk products.

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

NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND: Mr Cobb, Dr Lawrence, Mrs Ley, Mr Secker, Mr Snowden, Senator Crossin, Senator Johnston, 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 Hogg, Senator Lundy, Senator Murray, Senator Scullion, Senator Watson.

Current inquiries:

Australia's quarantine function.

Management and integrity of electronic information in the Commonwealth.

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.

Melbourne—Proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Bureau of Meteorology at Docklands.

Newcastle, NSW—Development of off-base housing for Defence at Adamstown.

Randwick, NSW—Site remediation and construction of infrastructure for the Defence site.

Joint Standing

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

Current inquiry:

Conduct of the 2001 Federal election.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Mr Baird, Mr Baldwin, Mr Beazley, Mr Bevis, Mr Brereton, Mr Byrne, 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 Snowden, Mr Somlyay, Mr C. P. Thompson, Senator Bolkus, Senator Cook, Senator Eggleston, Senator Evans, Senator Harradine, Senator Hutchins, Senator Johnston, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator O'Brien, Senator Payne, Senator Stott Despoja.

Current inquiries:

Annual reports for 2001-2002—

AusAID.

Austrade.

Australia Indonesia Institute.

Department of Defence.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Aspects of the 2000-2001 annual report of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission relating to conditions at immigration detention centres and the treatment of detainees.

Australia's maritime strategy.

Australia's role in the United Nations.

Australia's role in the World Trade Organisation.
Human rights and good governance education in the Asia-Pacific region.
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 inquiries:

2003 review of Migration Regulation 4.31B.
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 Lundy, Senator Scullion, Senator Stott Despoja.

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 Bartlett, Senator Kirk, Senator Marshall, Senator Mason, Senator Santoro, 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*).