

2002-2003

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 80

TUESDAY, 18 MARCH 2003

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

- 1 **WHEAT MARKETING AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 2 **ENERGY GRANTS (CREDITS) SCHEME BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2003—Mr Cameron*) on the motion of Mr Slipper—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr McMullan, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for its gross mismanagement of fuel tax policy, in particular:*
 - (1) its failure to deliver measures to promote cleaner fuels, despite its explicit promise to do so in the agreement with the Democrats leading to passage of *A New Tax System* through the Parliament;
 - (2) its overall policy paralysis and deception, shown most starkly by its decision to dump all the Fuel Taxation Inquiry recommendations even before the report was released; and
 - (3) its inexcusable delay in finalising even the limited set of measures included in this Bill and the Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill, which has left the transport industry with an extremely short timeframe to prepare for the new scheme before it comes into operation on 1 July 2003.”
- 3 **ENERGY GRANTS (CREDIT) SCHEME (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr Rudd*).
- 4 **TERRORISM INSURANCE BILL 2002** (*Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 5 **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*).
- 6 **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*).
- 7 **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*).
- 8 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (TERRORISM) BILL 2002** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Zahra*).
- 9 **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 13 February 2003*).
- 10 **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*).

* 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.

- 11 **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*).
- 12 **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*).
- 13 **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*).
- 14 **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*).
- 15 **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*).
- 16 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (COMPLIANCE WITH COURT AND TRIBUNAL ORDERS) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr McClelland*).
- 17 **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*).
- 18 **NATIONAL BLOOD AUTHORITY BILL 2002** (*Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 19 **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*).
- 20 **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*).
- 21 **NATIONAL GALLERY AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 10 February 2003*).
- 22 **SUPERANNUATION INDUSTRY (SUPERVISION) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Trade*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowdon*).
- 23 **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*).
- 24 **DESIGNS BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 25 **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*).
- 26 **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*).
- 27 **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*).
- 28 **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*).
- 29 **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*).
- 30 **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*).
- 31 **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*).

- 32 **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*).
- 33 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (AWARD SIMPLIFICATION) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 November 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 34 **MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 19 September 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 35 **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*).
- 36 **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*).
- 37 **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*).
- 38 **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*).
- 39 **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*).
- 40 **FAMILY LAW AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 February 2003—Mr Cox*).
- *41 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (DISABILITY REFORM) BILL (NO. 2) 2002 [NO. 2]** (*Minister for Children and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2003—Mr Edwards*).
- *42 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (EMERGENCY SERVICES) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2003—Mr Edwards*).
- 43 **IRAQ—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr Evans, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Andren, viz.—That the following words be added to the motion: “and insists that in the absence of specific, unambiguous and unanimous support of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, Australian defence forces not be involved in any military action in Iraq”—And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr McClelland to the proposed amendment, viz.—That all words after “and” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words:*
- “(1) condemns the Government for forward-deploying Australian troops to a potential theatre of war with Iraq in the absence of any United Nations authorisation and without revealing to the Australian people the commitments on which that deployment was based;
 - (2) declares its opposition to a unilateral military attack on Iraq by the United States;
 - (3) insists that the disarmament of Iraq proceed under the authority of the United Nations;
 - (4) expresses its full support and confidence in our servicemen and women, while expressing its opposition to the Government’s decision to forward-deploy them;
 - (5) expresses its total opposition to any use of nuclear arms and declares that Australian support should not be provided to any operation where such weaponry may be used; and
 - (6) declares that it has no confidence in the Prime Minister’s handling of this grave matter for the nation”.
- 44 **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*).
- 45 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (FAIR TERMINATION) BILL 2002**: Consideration of Senate’s amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).

- 46 **RENEWABLE ENERGY (ELECTRICITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2002:** Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).
- 47 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON INQUIRY INTO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2003—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 48 **NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 March 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 49 **KIMBERLEY LAND COUNCIL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 50 **SOUTH WEST ABORIGINAL LAND AND SEA COUNCIL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 51 **YAMATJI BARNA BABA MAAJA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 52 **GURANG LAND COUNCIL (ABORIGINAL CORPORATION) NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 53 **NGAANYATJARRA COUNCIL (ABORIGINAL CORPORATION) NATIVE TITLE UNIT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 54 **PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION—REPORT NO. 25—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Ms Macklin*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 55 **TAKEOVERS PANEL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Ms Macklin*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Ms Macklin*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 57 **NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COUNCIL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2003—Ms Macklin*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 58 **ADVANCE TO THE FINANCE MINISTER—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 February 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 59 **NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (CONSOLIDATION AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL (NO. 2) 2002 AND NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (VENTURE CAPITAL DEFICIT TAX) BILL 2002—CORRECTIONS TO EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 February 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **MIGRATION AGENTS REGISTRATION AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 61 **INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE GAP COVER SCHEMES—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 62 **CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 63 **GENE TECHNOLOGY REGULATOR—QUARTERLY REPORT FOR 1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2002—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.

- 64 **TOBACCO ADVERTISING PROHIBITION ACT—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 65 **ANNUAL REPORTS OF ADVISORY PANEL ON MARKETING IN AUSTRALIA OF INFANT FORMULA—CORRIGENDA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 66 **GOLDFIELDS LAND AND SEA COUNCIL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 67 **QUEENSLAND SOUTH REPRESENTATIVE BODY ABORIGINAL CORPORATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 68 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002—CORRECTION TO EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 February 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.
- 71 **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.
- 72 **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.
- 73 **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.
- 74 **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.
- 75 **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.
- 76 **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.
- 77 **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.
- 78 **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.
- 79 **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.
- 80 **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.
- 81 **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.

- 82 **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.
- 83 **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.
- 84 **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.
- 85 **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.
- 86 **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.
- 87 **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.
- 88 **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.
- 89 **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.
- 90 **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.
- 91 **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.
- 92 **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)*.
- 93 **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 **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 24 March 2003.*)
- 2 **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 24 March 2003.*)
- 3 **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 the next sitting Monday after 24 March 2003.*)
- 4 **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 the next sitting Monday after 24 March 2003.*)
- 5 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 6 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 7 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 8 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 9 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 10 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 11 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

- 12 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—continued

Notices given for Tuesday, 18 March 2003

- *1 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To move—That this House:
- (1) condemns the Howard Government's seven years of disinterest and denial on public transport as evidenced by its:
 - (a) decision to add a Goods and Services Tax to fares;
 - (b) failure to address the FBT disincentives on public transport fares;
 - (c) failure to give urban buses a fair go under the Diesel and Alternative Fuel Grant Scheme; and
 - (d) stated denial of any responsibility or consideration of public transport in the Auslink Green Paper that purports to lay the groundwork for a national transport plan;
 - (2) notes with concern the impact of increased congestion in urban and outer urban areas on quality of life, health and access to jobs and services for Australians;
 - (3) emphasises the environmental gains to be made through policy measures that reduce transport emissions, especially by reducing car dependency;
 - (4) stresses that access to public transport is an issue in all regions, including regional towns and cities, impacting daily on access to jobs, education and services for Australians;
 - (5) calls on the Howard Government to release any policy option and research papers commissioned or undertaken by the Commonwealth that canvas policy measures and costs associated with tax and regulatory barriers to increasing public transport usage, including the "*Cost Benefit Analysis Study for Exempting Employer-Provided Public Transport from Fringe Benefits Taxation*" conducted by the Australian Greenhouse Office in 2002; and
 - (6) calls on the Howard Government to accept a role for the Commonwealth in relation to public transport and declare that role in the Auslink White Paper due to be released this year. (*Notice given 6 March 2003.*)
- *2 **MR A. D. H. SMITH:** To move—That this House notes:
- (1) the history of violence and civil dispute in parts of Indonesia against Indonesian Christians;
 - (2) the impact of threats and intimidation towards individuals, families and local communities that have not provoked or initiated conflict;
 - (3) past incidents of terror and religious violence, along with the potential for further terror arising from the extreme views of some individuals and extremist Islamic organisations; and
 - (4) the significant humanitarian effort being undertaken in Indonesia through Australian based organisations. (*Notice given 6 March 2003.*)
- *3 **MR P. E. KING:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the widespread use of mobile phones in Australia, with subscriptions now at approximately 12 million;
 - (2) commends the Commonwealth Government and Australia's telecommunications carriers for their cooperative action in developing measures to address the problem of loss and theft of mobile phones, including:
 - (a) carriers implementing IMEI (International Mobile Equipment Identification) number blocking technology, which can render a lost or stolen mobile phone inoperable;
 - (b) examination of regulatory reform to support IMEI blocking; and
 - (c) encouraging greater public awareness of this problem and recommending action consumers can take to protect themselves in the event of the loss or theft of their mobile phones; and
 - (3) notes the success of these measures to date and the recently reported falls in the level of mobile phone theft in Australia. (*Notice given 6 March 2003.*)

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

- (1) acknowledges the vital contribution that unpaid workers make to our economy and our society;
- (2) acknowledges that the contribution of unpaid workers is not adequately recognised in GDP measures;
- (3) calls on the Federal Government to ensure that the 2006 Census includes a question relating to unpaid work; and
- (4) calls on the Federal Government to ensure that future Census include questions relating to unpaid work. (*Notice given 6 March 2003.*)

Notices—*continued*

1 **MR PRICE:** To move—

- (1) That standing order 28B be amended by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (b):
 - (*ba*) annual and additional estimates contained in the appropriation bills presented to the House shall stand referred for consideration by Members of the relevant committee (as determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) for the consideration of annual reports), and, for the purposes of this consideration:
 - (i) six Members of each committee, determined by the committee in each case, shall consider the estimates;
 - (ii) the Members of the committee selected to consider the estimates shall meet with Members of the relevant Senate legislation committee so that the Members and Senators may meet together for the purposes of considering the estimates;
 - (iii) members of the relevant House and Senate committees, when meeting together to consider estimates, shall choose a Member or a Senator to chair the joint meetings;
 - (iv) the provisions of Senate standing order 26 shall, to the extent that they are applicable, apply to the consideration of estimates under this paragraph; and
 - (v) that, upon the completion of joint meetings at which evidence is received or written answers or additional information considered, it shall then be a matter for the Members of the relevant committee to consider the terms of any report to the House on the estimates.
- (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

2 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 3 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 94 to read as follows:

Closure of Member

94 A motion may be made that a Member who is speaking, except a Member giving a notice of motion or formally moving the terms of a motion allowed under the standing orders or speaking to a motion of dissent (from any ruling of the Speaker under standing order 100), “be not further heard”, and such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

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

Presentation of petitions

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

- (a) in respect of each petition, the petitioner, or one of the petitioners, may present the petition to the House by standing at the Bar of the House and reading to the House the prayer of the petition, and
 - (b) where a petitioner is not able to present the petition in accordance with paragraph (a) of this standing order, the Member who has lodged the petition may present it to the House by reading to the House the prayer of the petition. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 5 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by inserting the following standing order after standing order 143:

Questions to committee chairs

143A Questions may be put to a Member in his or her capacity as Chair of a committee of the House, or of a joint committee, in connection with the work or duties of the committee in question. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

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

Questions without notice—Time limits

145A During question time:

- (a) the asking of each question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each question may not exceed 4 minutes;
- (b) the asking of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute; and
- (c) the time taken to make and determine points of order is not to be regarded as part of the time for questions and answers. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 7 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the following amendment to the standing orders be adopted for the remainder of this session:
- Questions from citizens**
- 148A** (a) A Member may give notice of a question in terms proposed by a person who lives in the Member's electoral division.
- (b) Notice of a question given under this standing order may show the name of the person who has proposed the question.
- (c) A Member may not give more than 25 notices of questions under this sessional order in a calendar year.
- (d) Nothing in this standing order may be taken to mean that a Member must give notice of a question proposed to the Member by a person who lives in the Member's electoral division. (*Notice given 17 October 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 8 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 9 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 10 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 11 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

12 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

13 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

14 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

15 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

16 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

17 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

18 **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 advise 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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 19 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 20 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 21 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 22 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 23 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 24 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.)*
- 25 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.)*
- 26 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.)*
- 27 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.)*
- 28 **MS BURKE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that statistics may not reveal the true extent of the unemployment problem for the over 45's;
 - (2) notes the additional impediments to gaining employment following the loss of a job for those aged over 45;
 - (3) notes the lack of opportunities for the older worker to change career paths and consider education and retraining before attempting to re-enter the workforce. The skills and knowledge of the older worker also need to keep pace with change so as to not alienate them from the workforce;
 - (4) acknowledges the benefit to employers of older workers as they generally demonstrate a greater commitment to a good employer and show competence in their dealings with customers; and
 - (5) calls on the Government to put in place policies that are more specific in tackling mature-age unemployment and that remove age-based discrimination and access to the labour market. *(Notice given 4 February 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.)*
- 29 **MS BURKE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the recent successes of notable employer groups in negotiating with their employees to provide extended unpaid leave, term time work, flexible roster systems and leave arrangements to suit family responsibilities; and
 - (2) calls on the Government to encourage and provide incentives for all Australian employers to extend such practices into more industries and working environments. *(Notice given 4 February 2003 Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.)*
- 30 **MS BURKE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges that trade apprenticeships continue to have low retention rates and strategies need to be put in place to improve these outcomes;
 - (2) notes the importance of relevance and quality of training for existing workers as well as new entrants, and that the content and coverage of training needs to keep pace with the rapid rate of technological change;
 - (3) notes that the age demographic changes will mean stagnation of 15 to 24 year olds in the population; alternative pathways such as the VET system are being considered to attract older participants; and

- (4) acknowledges that training methods may need to broaden the skills of the individual to provide more options for better career prospects. (*Notice given 4 February 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 31 **MR DANBY:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the environmental impact the 6.4 billion plastic bags used in Australia annually have on our environment;
 - (2) notes the incredible success of the new plastic bag levy, introduced in Ireland on 4 March 2002; and
 - (3) calls on the Government to introduce a similar plastic bag levy in Australia in order to reduce plastic bag usage and create a recurrent fund for environmental projects. (*Notice given 4 February 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 32 **MR KERR:** To move—That this House:
- (1) expresses its profound regret that the Saharawi people are still waiting to exercise their right to self-determination, 27 years after Morocco's illegal occupation of the Western Sahara;
 - (2) is deeply concerned about continuing reports of human rights violations against the Saharawi people in occupied Western Sahara and the severe shortfall in food aid affecting those in neighbouring refugee camps;
 - (3) welcomes the UN Security Council's recent reassertion of the importance of the Saharawi's right to self-determination;
 - (4) further notes the willingness of the POLISARIO Front to discuss with Morocco arrangements for the holding of the referendum to determine the future of the Western Sahara and economic and political guarantees in the event of the Western Sahara achieving independence following the referendum; and
 - (5) calls on the Government to get the parties to resume their talks with the aim of holding the long-delayed referendum and restoring stability to the area. (*Notice given 5 February 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 33 **MR PYNE:** To move—That this House:
- (1) reaffirms its support for the 30% private health insurance rebate which helps give Australians choice and is financially assisting almost 9 million Australians and their families, including one million Australians who earn less than \$20,000 a year;
 - (2) notes the Labor Party opposed the introduction of the private health insurance rebate and voted against the legislation when it was debated in the House of Representatives and the Senate;
 - (3) notes that numerous Labor Party members have called for major changes to the rebate; and
 - (4) calls on the Labor Party to express its support for the 30% private health insurance rebate or urgently release its private health insurance policy. (*Notice given 11 February 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 34 **MS VAMVAKINO:** To move—That this House:
- (1) condemns the US and UK Administrations for their declaration that they will respond with nuclear weapons against any nation that uses biological or chemical weapons;
 - (2) calls on Prime Minister Howard to condemn any use of nuclear weapons in the potential military action in Iraq;
 - (3) confirms Australia's long-time opposition to the use and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
 - (4) notes the recent report by the Centre for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation on the \$1.2 trillion proposed Missile Defence System and raises concern over the effect of nuclear and missile technology proliferation as a consequence of the project;
 - (5) notes reports that the use of nuclear weapons may lead to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis in any nuclear attack on Baghdad; and
 - (6) expresses concern about the probable legal issues related to the use of strategic nuclear weapons and potential charges of crimes against humanity and breaches of the Geneva conventions on war. (*Notice given 11 February 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

35 MR ADAMS: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that there is a critical shortage of doctors in areas that have been deemed under the Rural Remote Metropolitan Assessment Index (RRMAI) scheme as level three and lower and yet are in rural catchment areas;
- (2) notes that requests from Tasmania to review the RRMAI scheme have been ignored, despite Tasmania as a whole being in a remote location;
- (3) recognises that the health of rural communities is diminishing because of lack of access to medical services, especially in times of shortages such as during summer; and
- (4) calls on the Government to review immediately the RRMAI as it affects Tasmania and similar rural and regional areas around Australia, examples of which are Beaconsfield, New Norfolk and Sorell, in order they may attract doctors to these areas. (*Notice given 13 February 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

36 MR B. P. O'CONNOR: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that, because of the Family Tax Benefit system, parents of middle incomes pay an effective marginal tax rate of between 60% to 77%;
- (2) recognises that, because of the Allowances Income Test, an individual claiming Newstart who earns more than \$62 in a fortnight pays an effective marginal tax rate of 67%;
- (3) recognises that, because of the Allowances Income Test, an individual claiming Newstart who earns more than \$150 in a fortnight pays an effective marginal tax rate of 87%;
- (4) recognises that, because of the parental income test of Youth Allowance, 40,000 families face effective marginal tax rates of up to 111.5%;
- (5) acknowledges that these effective marginal tax rates are much higher than those for persons with high incomes;
- (6) notes that the number of individuals facing effective marginal tax rates of more than 60% has nearly doubled since 1997;
- (7) calls on the Government to reform the tax, welfare and family payment systems to avoid the development of poverty traps and disincentives to work; and
- (8) affirms its commitment to a tax system that is progressive. (*Notice given 3 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

37 MR B. P. O'CONNOR: To move—That this House:

- (1) calls on the Government to comply with international covenants on the rights of the child and ensure that all children in detention have access to normal education;
- (2) asks that the Government work with appropriate State and Territory government agencies to develop a program of transition and support for children in detention; and
- (3) asks that the Government ensure that educational facilities for children are not located inside detention centres. (*Notice given 3 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

38 MS VAMVAKINO: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes comments in *The Age* on 23 December 2002 by Professor Ian Webster, Chairman of the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, to the effect that alcohol is a major contributor to road accidents, suicide and depression all of which are major causes of death and illness amongst 18-24 year olds.
- (2) notes a draft discussion paper by the American Medical Association that teenage drinkers have increased risk of long-term health and lifestyle effects: social problems, depression, suicidal thoughts and alcohol associated violence and do worse at school, at finding employment and maintaining relationships.
- (3) recognises there is a role for families, schools, role models, governments and health workers in identifying and supporting young people at risk of alcohol abuse.
- (4) notes the recent *Alcohol Awareness Survey* by the Salvation Army/Roy Morgan into the rate and level of teenage binge drinking that confirmed that binge drinking is in epidemic proportions for young males and females.
- (5) calls on the Commonwealth Government to work with State and Territory Governments to investigate further measures to lower the rate of juvenile alcohol abuse and binge drinking, including:

increased education and awareness programs in schools and the community, mentoring programs, and increased punitive measures to combat older people purchasing alcohol for teenagers. (*Notice given 3 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

39 **MR PRICE:** To move—That this House.

- (1) passes on its congratulations to all those students who completed the HSC (or equivalent) in 2002.
- (2) recognises the outstanding performance of many students in the Chifley electorate who scored a band 6 (a mark of 90% or above) in one or more subjects; and
- (3) takes note of the exceptional results achieved by St. Mary's Senior High School where 73 students finished in the top 10% of the state in one or more subjects. (*Notice given 3 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

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

- (1) congratulates the St. Mary's Rugby League Club upon gaining entry to the NSWRL Premier League Competition (formerly the NSW first division) for the 2003 season, under the name of the St. Mary's – Penrith Cougars;
- (2) recognises the tireless work of the club's board and members in achieving this promotion;
- (3) acknowledges the contribution made by the St. Mary's Leagues club in promoting the game of rugby league within the Chifley community and the work it's done in preparing young local players for the elite level of the game; and
- (4) wishes them well for the season ahead, during which they will compete against sides from some of the most famous clubs in the modern day game, including the Sydney Roosters, St. George-Illawarra, South Sydney, Manly and Parramatta, as well as foundation clubs Newtown, North Sydney, Western Suburbs and Balmain now playing exclusively in the Premier League. (*Notice given 4 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

41 **MS BURKE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that a study commissioned by Osteoporosis Australia and a subsequent report titled *The Burden of Brittle Bones* indicated that osteoporosis is a disease that is becoming increasingly prevalent in our communities;
- (2) notes that this report further indicated that it should be recognised that osteoporosis is a preventable and treatable disease and with more research the current trend could be reversed;
- (3) notes with concern the statistics in this report that indicate the projected increase in numbers of patients within the population diagnosed with osteoporosis—in 2001, 1.9 million Australians, 10% of the population, were diagnosed as suffering from osteoporosis and by 2021 this figure is expected to rise to 13.2%;
- (4) recognises the enormous cost to the health services, the community, to individual sufferers and their carers; and
- (5) calls on the Government to recognise osteoporosis as a national health priority. (*Notice given 5 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

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

- (1) recognises that the *Hansard* record on the parliamentary website should pre-date the current cut-off of 1984;
- (2) acknowledges the national benefit that would be derived from a more comprehensive record being made available as well as the benefit to Members of Parliament and their staff;
- (3) notes that the proposed Centenary project to have all the *Hansard* records incorporated was unable to be finalised apparently because of the cost; and
- (4) urges the Presiding Officers to re-examine the proposal and at least attempt to extend the current scope of the *Hansard* available on the Web even if it has to be staged over a number of Parliaments. (*Notice given 5 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

Orders of the day—continued

- 1 **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 24 March 2003.*)
- 2 **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 24 March 2003.*)
- 3 **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 24 March 2003.*)
- 4 **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 the next sitting Monday after 24 March 2003.*)
- 5 **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 the next sitting Monday after 24 March 2003.*)
- 6 **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 the next sitting Monday after 24 March 2003.*)
- 7 **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 the next sitting Monday after 24 March 2003.*)
- 8 **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 the next sitting Monday after 24 March 2003.*)
- 9 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 10 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 11 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 12 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 13 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 14 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

15 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

16 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 17 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 18 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 19 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)

- 20 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 21 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 22 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 23 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 24 **GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK (PROTECTING THE GREAT BARRIER REEF FROM OIL DRILLING AND EXPLORATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Mr K. J. Thomson*): Second reading (*from 10 February 2002*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 25 **PARKINSON'S DISEASE**: Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 2003*) on the motion of Ms Gambaro—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 26 **LEARNING MUSIC:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 2003*) on the motion of Mr Pearce—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 27 **AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 2003*) on the motion of Ms Plibersek—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 28 **WOMEN:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 2003*) on the motion of Mrs Crosio—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 29 **EMPLOYEE PROTECTION (EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS GUARANTEE) BILL 2003** (*Mr McClelland*): Second reading (*from 3 March 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 30 **VETERANS' GOLD CARD:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 March 2003*) on the motion of Ms O'Byrne—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges that medical practices and individual general practitioners are advising veteran patients that they will no longer be able to recognise the gold card when charging them for medical services;
 - (2) acknowledges that veterans are entitled to receive adequate and appropriate medical care in view of their service to this country;
 - (3) notes that many practices and practitioners, in particular those with a high percentage of veteran patients, are struggling to provide acceptable levels of medical care and service, given the rebates and fees currently available to them; and

- (4) calls upon the Government to immediately negotiate with medical practitioners to ensure that an appropriate agreement is in place to enable doctors to provide adequate levels of care to gold card recipients. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 31 **LANG HANCOCK:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 March 2003*) on the motion of Mr Schultz—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 32 **OBESE CHILDREN:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 March 2003*) on the motion of Ms Plibersek—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 2003.*)
- 33 **TOURISM INDUSTRY:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 March 2003*) 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 8 sitting Mondays after 24 March 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).

BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE*Tuesday, 18 March 2003**The Main Committee meets at 4 p.m.***GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****Orders of the day**

- 1 **INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND RESOURCES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2003—Mr Hardgrave*) on the motion of Mr Entsch—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Emerson, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for:
 - (1) failing to implement an effective industry policy for Australian manufacturing; and
 - (2) failing to invest adequately in innovation, leaving Australia trailing its main competitors in research and development”.
 - 2 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2002-2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2003—Mr Danby*) on the motion of Mr Slipper—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr McMullan, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for its failures in economic management, and in particular its failings in relation to both income and expenditure policies because:
 - (1) it is the highest taxing Government in Australian history, and:
 - (a) has imposed the highest level ever of income tax;
 - (b) is responsible for introducing the biggest new tax in our history; and
 - (c) is addicted to imposing ever more taxes and special levies;
 - (2) it has failed to deliver on its basic responsibilities to the Australian people, for example:
 - (a) bulk billing has collapsed;
 - (b) there is chronic under-investment in our public schools, TAFE colleges and universities;
 - (c) the struggle to balance work and family life continues to get harder; and
 - (d) entry level housing is becoming even less affordable for struggling Australian families; and
 - (3) despite the record tax take, and in spite of declining Government services, the Government has failed to keep the Budget in surplus after nearly a decade of strong economic growth in that:
 - (a) it broke its unequivocal promise to keep the Budget in surplus in 2001-02;
 - (b) future surpluses are dependent on the additional revenue provided by bracket creep;
 - (c) it has presided over enormous waste and mismanagement including billions of dollars of foreign exchange losses and defence procurement losses; and
 - (d) it has lost control over expenditure necessitating wholesale changes to the budgetary management system”.
 - 3 **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*).
 - 4 **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*).
 - 5 **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*).
 - 6 **BUSHFIRES—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 5 March 2003—Mrs May*) on the motion of Dr Stone—That the House take note of the paper.
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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

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

13 February 2002

- 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.
- 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 licence 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.
- 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.
- 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.

715 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural 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. 744 - 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

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.

14 November 2002

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

4 December 2002

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.

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.

5 December 2002

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.

9 December 2002

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.

10 December 2002

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

- (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.

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

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.

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.

12 December 2002

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

4 February 2003

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 150) 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 155), 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 156), 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 rorts 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 156) 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 rorts 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 157), 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 157), 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 157), 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 rorts; if not, why not.

1341 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 1149 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 159), 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 rorts.
- (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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 160) 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 161) 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 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 165) 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.
- 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.
- 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.

5 February 2003

- 1355 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Science—
- (1) What is the name of the company that has been awarded the contract to construct a new nuclear reactor at Lucas Heights in NSW.
- (2) What are the related corporate entities to the company.
- (3) Is he able to say whether the company or any related corporate entity has been the subject of complaint in respect of a nuclear reactor constructed in Egypt; if so, what has been the (a) nature and (b) outcome of those complaints.
- (4) Was a contractual condition to the company being awarded the contract an agreement that waste could be returned to Argentina.
- (5) Are there any legislative restrictions on the receipt or handling of waste by the Argentinean Government or any corporations or instrumentalities entrusted with that function.
- (6) What will be the system of supervision of the construction of the nuclear reactor and will that supervision involve any acknowledged international expertise other than from the company or related bodies corporate.
- (7) What supervision if any will be in place upon the commissioning of the new nuclear reactor to ensure that safety mechanisms are not overridden in order to hasten the time in which the reactor becomes operational.
- (8) Is he able to say whether the International Atomic Energy Agency of the UN in Vienna was checking the problems of the Egypt reactor; if so, what was the result of the inquiry and what conclusions were drawn.
- 1356 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—How many (a) barristers, (b) solicitors, (c) judges and (d) magistrates failed to lodge an income tax return for each of the financial years ended 30 June (i) 1992, (ii) 1993, (iii) 1994, (iv) 1995, (v) 1996, (vi) 1997, (vii) 1998, (viii) 1999, (ix) 2000, (x) 2001 and (xi) 2002.
- 1357 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What percentage of magistrates pay the top marginal rate of income tax.
- 1360 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Further to the reply to part (1) of question No. 1253 (*Hansard*, 5 February 2003, page 313), why did he or the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) not ask Dr Colston directly about the purpose of his 27 taxpayer-funded motor vehicle trips and his 16 taxpayer-funded interstate aeroplane trips between 1 July 1999 and 6 May 2002.
- (2) Further to the reply to part (2) of question No. 1253, (a) how did he become aware that the purpose of Dr Colston's taxpayer-funded motor vehicle trips and taxpayer-funded interstate aeroplane trips on

19 April 2002 and 6 May 2002 was not for Dr Colston to attend a medical appointment and (b) what was the purpose of these trips.

1361 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Is the credit rating of a client affected when Centrelink puts a client's debt into the hands of a debt collection agency.

1362 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What was the total revenue collected through the superannuation surcharge in (a) 1997-98, (b) 1998-99, (c) 1999-2000, (d) 2000-2001 and (e) 2001-2002.
- (2) What was the average cost of this surcharge on those to whom it was applied in (a) 1997-98, (b) 1998-99, (c) 1999-2000, (d) 2000-2001 and (e) 2001-2002.
- (3) What sum was collected in (a) 1997-98, (b) 1998-99, (c) 1999-2000, (d) 2000-2001 and (e) 2001-2002 from individual taxpayers whose taxable income was less than (i) \$100,000 (ii) \$150,000 (iii) \$200,000 and (iv) \$500,000.

1363 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of an article by Tom Baddeley entitled "ATO's tardiness creates a bother" in *The Australian* on 3 February 2003.
- (2) How many taxpayers have accepted the offer made by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to investors in mass marketed tax effective schemes.
- (3) How many of these taxpayers have not yet received an acknowledgement from the ATO.
- (4) What is the average time the ATO is taking to process reassessments once the taxpayer has accepted the ATO's offer.

1364 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many taxpayers are being reassessed due to their participation in Employee Benefit Arrangements (EBA).
- (2) What process is used by the Australian Taxation Office in issuing any reassessment notices.
- (3) Are there any taxpayers who did not claim deductions whilst participating in the scheme who have had amended assessments issued to them to disallow the deductions that they did not claim; if so, how many taxpayers received these reassessments.

1365 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister able to say what sum the Commonwealth raised from excise on tobacco in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001 and (g) 2002.
- (2) What was the level of direct funding by the Commonwealth to anti-smoking campaigns in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001 and (g) 2002.
- (3) What was the level of funding provided to the States for use in anti-smoking campaigns in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001 and (g) 2002.
- (4) What direct action is the Federal Government taking to promote an anti-smoking message.

1368 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Is the Minister able to say whether, since the answer by the Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation to question No. 1674 (*Hansard*, 31 August 2000, page 19963), there have been changes to British laws which constrain certain government funded institutions, such as the British Museum and the British Natural History Museum, from returning collection items.

1369 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) In their joint statement on 4 July 2000 did the British and Australian Prime Ministers welcome the initiative of the British Natural History Museum in cataloguing the 450 indigenous human remains in its collection and in providing this information to the Australian Government.
- (2) Have any of the Museum's human remains been returned to Australia.

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1371 - 1372)—

- (1) How many refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) does the Government estimate have fled the famine.
- (2) How many of these refugees does the Government estimate have fled to the People's Republic of China.
- (3) Have Australian diplomats or members of the Australia China Human Rights dialogue attempted to investigate the plight of these refugees; if not, why not.

- (4) Is the Minister able to say what is the policy of Beijing towards these DPRK refugees.
- (5) Is the Minister able to say whether Beijing routinely returns starving citizens of the DPRK to the DPRK.
- (6) Is the Minister able to say whether many of these returned refugees are incarcerated in concentration camps or executed.
- (7) Has Australia made representations to Beijing or the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) about these practices.
- (8) What action has the UNHCR taken on behalf of these refugees.
- (9) Is China a signatory to the 1951 convention on refugees and its subsequent protocols.
- (10) Is Beijing an executive member of the UNHCR executive.
- (11) Has China and the UNHCR signed a bilateral treaty in 1995 that guarantees the right to call for expeditious arbitration over differences in refugee policy.
- (12) Has the UNCHR submitted the treatment of North Korean refugees to arbitration.
- (13) Has Australia asked the UNHCR for such arbitration; if not, is the Government contemplating such a request; if not, why not.

1372 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

1373 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 971 (*Hansard*, 11 December 2002, page 10248), why does the Government not provide any recognition to Kurdish authorities within the boundaries of Iraq.
- (2) To what other minority, indigenous or other groups seeking self-determination does the Government provide recognition or special status.
- (3) Are there set criteria for determining what groups are accorded status; if so, what are they.

1374 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has the Australian Government made any contact with the Iraqi opposition groups.
- (2) Have Government representatives met with the Iraqi National Congress; if so, what was the nature and content of those discussions.
- (3) What is the Government's evaluation of various components of the Iraqi opposition.
- (4) Does the Government believe the opposition groups will have a serious role in governing Iraq in the event of the current regime collapsing.
- (5) What, if any, discussions have been held with opposition groups with regard to the continuation of existing and future Australian commercial relations.

1375 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1192 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 179) by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, to how many Muslim (a) institutions and (b) religious schools in Australia does the Saudi Government provide funding.
- (2) What conditions are attached to the funding.
- (3) Is he is aware of any Australian Islamic Schools that receive Saudi funding and that mandate the teaching of the radical Wahabi-ist, al-Qaeda, or JI doctrines rather than other moderate forms of Islam.
- (4) Is he aware of any teachers referred to in question No. 1192, and who teach radical Wahabi-ist, al-Qaeda, or JI, doctrines in Australia.

6 February 2003

1377 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of allegations against Mr Francis James Muller, a US citizen, and Thailand companies named Global Option Co and Foreign Currency International, which are involved in foreign exchange speculation.
- (2) Has the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) received any complaints of the activities of Mr Francis Muller, Global Option Co or Foreign Currency International.
- (3) What action did the ASIC take.

1379 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What projects did the Australia Council fund in the Melbourne metropolitan

- area in (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 and what was the (i) expenditure on, (ii) location of, and (iii) purpose of, each project.
- 1381 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) In the Government's response to the House of Representatives "Health is Life" inquiry into Indigenous Health, 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
 - (2) Is he in a position now to provide that information to the House.
- 1383 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many Newstart allowance recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.
- 1384 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many Family Payment Greater than Minimum recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.
- 1385 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many disability support pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.
- 1386 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many age pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.
- 1387 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many parenting payment single recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.
- 1388 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What sums were provided to (a) government and (b) non-government schools in (i) 2002 in the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752 and what was the (I) expenditure on, (II) location of, and (III) purpose of, each grant.
 - (2) Using the criteria referred in part (1), what are the allocations for 2003.
- 1389 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is it a fact that the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee recommended in June 2001 that the drug Keppra be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).
 - (2) What is the government process for listing a drug on the PBS once it has been recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).
 - (3) Following the decision by the PBAC to recommend that Keppra be on the PBS, (a) what steps are being taken in reaching a final agreement, (b) when did the Government commence price negotiations with the manufacturers of Keppra, (c) what is holding up reaching an agreement, (d) who is undertaking those negotiations and (e) when does the Minister expect the negotiations to be finalised.
- 1390 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What was the average time in (a) 1995, (b) 1996, (c) 1997, (e) 1998, (f) 1999, (g) 2000, (h) 2001 and (i) 2002 between the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) making a recommendation that a drug be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and the drug being listed.
 - (2) Of the drugs that the PBAC has recommended be on the PBS but have yet to be listed, (a) what are their names, (b) when was the original recommendation made by the PBAC, (c) what are the reasons for the delay in the drug being listed on the PBS and (d) when does the Minister expect the drugs will be on the PBS.

1391 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Has the Government any intention of removing brands from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) list.
- (2) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for concession card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-00, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) treatment card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (4) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for non-concession or DVA treatment card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (5) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$23.10 during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.

1392 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals that have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (2) What was the total number of families that have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of families that have registered for the Medicare Safety Net.

1393 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals that have reached the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin, and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (2) What was the total number of families that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin, and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of individuals that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold and were not issued with a Safety Net Card during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003.
- (4) What was the total number of families that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold and were not issued with a Safety Net Card during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003.

1394 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- (2) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.

- 1395 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin, (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
 - (2) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- 1396 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—What percentage of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- 1397 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—What was the total number of Medicare services provided during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- 1398 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- 1399 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—What percentage of Medicare services were provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Scullin and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083 (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090, (J) 3091 and (K) 3752.
- 1402 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of allegations against Mr Francis James Muller, a US citizen, and Thailand companies named Global Option Co. and Foreign Currency International, which are involved in foreign exchange speculation.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware that Australian citizens have lost money after being approached by Global Option Co or Foreign Currency International to be involved in foreign money exchanges.
 - (3) When did the Minister first become aware of these allegations.
 - (4) What action did the Minister take.
 - (5) What action did the Australian Federal Police take.
 - (6) Has the Minister informed the Thai Government of the allegations; if so, (a) what steps were taken and (b) what was the outcome.
 - (7) What is the estimated number of Australians that have been affected by this scam.
- 1404 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—
- (1) What is (a) the number of community based child care centres that are located in the electoral division of Scullin, (b) the name and address of each centre and (c) the sum of Commonwealth funding that each centre received in (i) 2001-2002 and (ii) 2002-2003.
 - (2) Which (a) Commonwealth funded child centres located in the electorate of Scullin have been overpaid and (b) what sum will each child care centre be asked to repay.
- 1407 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit in the electoral division of Scullin received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.
- 1410 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Trade—
- (1) Was the recent election of the Chair of the United Nations Human Rights Commission discussed by, or raised with, him on his recent visit to Libya; if so, what was the content of the discussions and were any commitments made.
 - (2) Was this matter discussed by or with Colonel Qaddafi's son when he visited Australia; if so, what was the content of the discussions and were any commitments made.

1411 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Since the October 2002 Bali bombing; (a) what sum has the Government spent on defence force recruitment advertising and (b) what was the percentage increase in defence force recruitment advertising spending over these three months compared to the three months preceding the October 2002 Bali bombing.
- (2) What percentage of this money was spent on (a) television advertising and (b) improvements on previous or developments of new Internet sites.
- (3) What was the monthly percentage increase in recruitment (a) overall, (b) through the Internet site and (c) through telephone calls or letters as a result of the television advertising.

1412 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware of a visit by Bishop Hegedus from Hungary in October 2002.
- (2) Can he provide details of Bishop Hegedus's visa visit to Australia, including (a) when the bishop arrived and departed, (b) when the visa was granted and (c) what visa sub-class the bishop was on.
- (3) Are persons on that class of visa allowed to address public meetings or engage in any fundraising or political activities.
- (4) When the visa was granted, did his Department consider an anti-semitic article written by the bishop in April 2002; if not, why not; if so, what conclusions did the decision-maker come to about the article.
- (5) When the visa was granted, was his Department aware of a pending criminal court case against the bishop about the article; if so, was this matter considered in deciding whether to issue a visa; if not, why not; if the court case was considered, what conclusions did the decision-maker come to about the article.
- (6) Is his Department aware that soon after the bishop returned to Hungary, the bishop was convicted of inciting racial hatred and received a sentence of one and a half years imprisonment, suspended for three years.
- (7) Given the conviction, would Bishop Hegedus receive another visa if the bishop sought to come to Australia again.

1413 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the reply to question No. 664 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 70), apart from court action based on advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions, (a) what other action does he take when he becomes aware of a breach of the Sydney Airport curfew, (b) what did he do on learning of the breaches of the curfew on (i) 9 February 1999, (ii) 27 January 1999, (iii) 21 February 1999, (iv) 18 March 1999, (v) 24 March 1999 and (vi) 5 May 1999.
- (2) Why has Capital Jet Charter been the most frequent offender in relation to breaches of the Sydney Airport curfew.

1414 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to his reply to question No. 980 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 97) where was the Government's aircraft noise policy stated at the time of the airport's sale.

1415 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article by Paul Barry titled "Bankrupt in Paddo: barrister's \$3m unpaid taxes" which appeared in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 26 February 2001, detailing the bankruptcy history of Mr Stephen Archer and attempts by creditors, including the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), to recover debts.
- (2) Is he aware that Mr Archer again comes up for a full public examination at the Federal Court Sydney Registry on 19-20 February 2003.
- (3) Is he also aware that this will be the third time Mr Archer has come before a court of law in a bid to use serial bankruptcy to avoid paying his creditors, principally the ATO, millions of dollars.
- (4) What action is the Government taking to deal with serial bankrupts like Mr Archer.
- (5) What action is the Government taking so that it will be able to alert the Law Society of New South Wales and the Bar Association of New South Wales of individuals like Mr Archer who use serial bankruptcy and family law and other legislative provisions to avoid paying tax.

1416 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he able to say what duties a legal practitioner has to the law, within the context of a legal practitioner's responsibilities as a model citizen adhering to the law both in fact as well as in principle; if so, what are those duties; if not, why not.
- (2) Is he able to say whether the conduct of the type being exhibited in the legal profession of legal practitioners such as the cases of (a) well-known barrister, Mr Stephen Archer, who is scheduled to again come before the Federal Court Sydney Registry for full public examination on 19-20 February 2003 and (b) Mr John Cummins QC who did not lodge a tax return for 45 years and whose case was handed down in the Federal Court on 5 December 2002, fulfils a minimum standard of conduct acceptable such as to maintain the good reputation and public confidence in the legal profession; if so, why; if not, why not
- (3) What action will he take to demonstrate to the people of Australia that the Howard Government is serious in cracking down on tax rorts employed by members of the legal profession.

1417 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has he been made aware that, in addition to the cases of Sydney barristers Mr Stephen Archer and Mr John Cummins QC, there are other members of the legal profession who are being pursued by the Tax Commissioner for serial bankruptcy or other tax rorts; if so, (a) how many cases are there and (b) what can he do to assist the Treasurer and the Government stamp out rorting of the tax system by the legal profession.

1418 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the reply to question No. 664 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 70), did the Director of Public Prosecutions take any action against those airline companies that breached the Sydney Airport curfew on (i) 9 February 1999, (ii) 27 January 1999, (iii) 21 February 1999, (iv) 18 March 1999, (v) 24 March 1999 and (vi) 5 May 1999; if so, what action was taken and what are the details in each case; if not, why not.

1419 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—How many members of the legal profession have been imprisoned following convictions associated with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Act since March 1996.

1420 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) For the purposes of section 263 of the Bankruptcy Act, (a) can he say whether Mr Stephen Archer, a declared bankrupt due to be let out of bankruptcy by his trustee in 2005, has attempted to conceal property of the bankrupt either during the term of this current bankruptcy or during the term of any other bankruptcy he has been the subject of s.263(1)(a); if so, what is that property and what action can the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) take with respect to the provisions of section 263; if not, why not and (b) is he aware of Mr Archer's wife ever having received such property in terms of s.263(1)(b).
- (2) Upon a finding of any attempt by Mr and Mrs Archer to conceal property and given the history of the case of Mr Archer, will he encourage the DPP to pursue the full weight of the law, namely the indictable offence penalty of three years imprisonment; if not, why not.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection 264(2), is he aware of any property previously owned by, in the title of Mr Archer, which has been disposed of, received, moved, retained or concealed by him that has been seized; if so, what is that property.
- (4) For the purpose of section 263A of the Act, can he say whether Mr Archer has made any affidavits known to be false; if so, what are those affidavits and what action is being taken to bring Mr Archer to justice.
- (5) For the purpose of section 263B of the Act, can he say whether Mr Archer has made any false proofs of debt; if so, what are those affidavits and what action is being taken to bring Mr Archer to justice.
- (6) For the purpose of section 264A of the Act, can he say whether it is known that Mr Archer intends not to appear before the full examination at the Federal Court on 19-20 February 2003.
- (7) If Mr Archer does fail to appear at this examination, can he say whether the DPP will take all punitive action to commence proceedings for Mr Archer's arrest and trial to face charges under this provision that may impose a maximum sentence of six months imprisonment; if not, why not.
- (8) If Mr Archer fails to appear at the full examination of the Federal Court, will he recommend to the DPP pursuant to subsection 264A(2) that further proceedings be initiated for contempt of court; if not, why not.
- (9) In light of the fact that this is Mr Archer's third bankruptcy, if Mr Archer fails to appear at the full examination, can he say whether the DPP will seek to arrest Mr Archer under the provisions of section 264B of the Act; if not, why not.

- (10) If Mr Archer does appear at the listed examination and either refuses to be sworn or refuses to give evidence, can he say what steps the DPP will take to implement the punitive provisions of section 264C of the Act; if not, why not.
- (11) Pursuant to section 265 of the Act, can he say whether Mr Archer is known to have failed to disclose property; if so, what is that property and what action under this or another provision has the DPP taken against Mr Archer for so doing.
- (12) Can he say whether, pursuant to section 266 of the Act, whether the DPP has established whether Mr Archer has attempted to, or actually disposed of, property during any of the three bankruptcy applications after the presentation of a petition; if so, what action under this provision has been taken by the DPP and when was it taken.
- (13) Can he say whether the DPP has established whether Mr or Mrs Archer has made any false declaration to the Court within the meaning of (a) section 267, (b) section 267B or (c) 267C with respect to any of the previous or current bankruptcies; if so, what are those declarations.
- (14) Pursuant to section 269, can he say whether the DPP has established whether Mr Archer has obtained credit at any time during any of his three periods of bankruptcies; if so, what are the details of these credit applications including dates, borrower and amounts and what action has the DPP taken with respect to this conduct.
- (15) Pursuant to section 270, can he say whether the DPP has established whether Mr Archer has kept proper books of account during his three periods of bankruptcy; if so, will he table these accounts in Parliament; if not, why not.
- (16) Can he say whether the DPP has established what are the particulars of the trust that currently exists on Mr Archer's bankrupt estate.
- (17) Can he say whether the DPP has established whether Mr Archer's bankrupt estate is a Part X arrangement or some other assignment; if so, what is that arrangement or assignment.
- (18) Can he say whether the DPP has established whether Mr Archer has kept books as prescribed in section 277A of the Act; if not, why not; if so, will he table these books in Parliament; if not, why not.

1422 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did he state on 27 August 2001 that when the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) audit into the GST activities of the Queensland Division of the Liberal Party is completed it should be made public.
- (2) Is it a fact that the audit report has not been made public, apart from a media statement made by the then Liberal Party Director on the day the he announced his new Ministry.
- (3) Will he release the audit report as promised; if not, why not.
- (4) As a former Treasurer, was he aware when he promised the ATO audit report would be released that the secrecy provisions of the Income Tax Act meant the report could be released only with the concurrence of the Queensland Division of the Liberal Party.
- (5) Will he now arrange for the release of the audit report through the Queensland Division of the Liberal Party.
- (6) Has his attention been drawn to the former Liberal Party Director's media release issued the day he announced his new Ministry which revealed that the ATO had applied a GST bill to the Liberal Party of \$13,000 on transfers of funds within the Party and sponsorships; if so, is he able to say whether the \$13,000 bill means the Liberal Party sought to avoid paying GST on \$130,000 in GST.
- (7) Does he stand by his claim of 28 August 2001 that the under-payment of GST was only \$180 and that it was an honest mistake.

1423 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) apply a 50% penalty tax to the GST transactions of the Queensland Division of the Liberal Party as a result of its audit announced by the Prime Minister in August 2001.
- (2) Is he aware that the ATO has told a Senate Estimates committee that a penalty tax is applied when the taxpayer has been reckless as to the operation of the tax law or has been engaged in a tax avoidance scheme.
- (3) In the light of the imposition of a penalty tax, does he stand by his statement of 24 August 2001 that this was only an error or a mistake, or does he now concede the Liberal Party has been caught in a tax avoidance scheme.

1425 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to reports of the potential use by the US armed forces of the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator (RNEP) weapon in the proposed war in Iraq and in the ongoing War on Terrorism, (a) is the Government aware of the new nuclear weapons that the US is funding and (b) does the Government support the use of the RNEP or similar weapons in any military action led by the US.
- (2) Has the Government conducted investigations into the probable radiation contamination that Australian servicemen and women may be exposed to in any military action in Iraq.
- (3) Has the Government sought legal advice on the international constitutional law of engaging in armed conflict with Iraq without the endorsement of the UN; if so, what was the content of that advice.

1427 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Further to his January 2003 letter to ethnic community broadcasters, “Message to Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters”, how many complaints has he or his representatives received concerning allegations of ethnic broadcasters or their programs inciting hatred or violence, if so, what was the number and nature of these allegations.
- (2) In the past 40 years of ethnic community broadcasting, how many complaints alleging incitement to hatred or violence by ethnic community broadcasters have been received by the Australian Broadcasting Authority or other relevant regulatory authorities.
- (3) Has he written a similar letter for distribution to commercial media broadcasters and outlets to ensure they are aware of their responsibility not to incite hatred or violence.
- (4) What was the process of consultation and distribution for this letter with representatives from the ethnic community broadcaster sector.
- (5) Has he received letters of concern from ethnic community broadcasters or their representatives since the distribution of the “Message to Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters”, if so, how many.

1428 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—Further to the answer to question No. 997 (*Hansard*, 2 December 2002, page 9420) concerning the sale of surplus defence land at the Maygar Barracks site in Camp Road, Broadmeadows, is the Government aware of past instances where land has been gifted to the public in perpetuity; if so, what parcels of land were gifted and in what year.

10 February 2003

1431 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 1112 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 152) concerning the Governor-General, on which days and nights was the Governor General in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

1432 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 533 (*Hansard*, 22 August 2002, page 5558) concerning the average sum spent by Members of the House of Representatives on personalised stationery and newsletters, what was the average sum spent by Members of personalised stationery and newsletters in the calendar year 2002.
- (2) What was the average sum spent by Members of the (a) Government and (b) Opposition.

1433 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to an article by Paul Barry titled “As Caesar judges Caesar, bankrupt barristers go on their merry way” which appeared in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 27 February 2001, identifying four Sydney barristers who have been bankrupted twice over huge unpaid tax bills.
- (2) Is he aware that one of those barristers, Mr Robert Somosi, has incurred \$835,000 in unpaid tax and penalties since the 1980s.
- (3) Is he aware that Mr Somosi was also convicted in 1996 of failing to lodge a tax return for 17 years, which then covered his entire working life at the Bar.
- (4) What action is the Government taking to deal with serial bankrupts like Mr Somosi, who use serial bankruptcy to avoid paying tax, including whether it will report such persons to the Law Society of New South Wales and the Bar Association of New South Wales.

11 February 2003

1434 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many applications for consideration of eligible investor status did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receive from individuals wishing to seek a remission of penalties and interest in the

categories of (a) scheme promoters who designed, prepared, managed, sold or implemented the investment schemes, including the directors and office bearers of an entity which managed the investment, (b) tax advisers or financial planners who received a fee for another investor's scheme participation, (c) tax agents and others who give tax advice for a fee on a regular basis, and who could be expected to be aware of the taxation issues associated with investments, including the self-assessment system and (d) members of a professional firm that has a tax practice.

- (2) Were these applications individually assessed taking into account an applicant's previous history as a taxpayer and level of knowledge and understanding of the tax laws, as stated in the *Taxpayers' Charter* explanatory booklet entitled "Treating you fairly and reasonably".
- (3) How many of these applications were approved in each category.
- (4) Of those applications that were approved, what was the average percentage of (a) penalties and (b) interest that was remitted in each category.
- (5) What criteria were used in each category to ensure that each applicant was treated on his or her merits.

1435 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 505 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 5072), is the Minister aware that residents of Gosnells, Thornlie, Maddington, Forrestfield and High Wycombe in the electoral division of Hasluck wishing to access a local bulk billing general practitioner are being told by the practices that they have either ceased taking new patients, or have up to 3-day waiting lists for appointments; if not, why not.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that 35% of general practitioner services in the electoral division of Hasluck no longer provide an ongoing bulk billing service to patients; if not, why not.
- (3) For each broad type of service categorised in the Medicare statistics, what percentage of services were (a) directly billed and (b) billed at or below Medicare schedule fees in the electoral division of Hasluck during (i) 1996, (ii) 1997, (iii) 1998, (iv) 1999, (v) 2000, (vi) 2001 and (vii) 2002.
- (4) For each broad type of service categorised in the Medicare statistics, what percentage of services were (a) directly billed and (b) billed at or below Medicare schedule fees in Western Australia during (i) 1996, (ii) 1997, (iii) 1998, (iv) 1999, (v) 2000, (vi) 2001 and (vii) 2002.
- (5) What was the total number of Medicare services provided during (a) 1996 (b) 1997 (c) 1998 (d) 1999 (e) 2000 (f) 2001 and (g) 2002 in (i) Western Australia and (ii) the electoral division of Hasluck.
- (6) How many services were provided per capita during (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001 and (g) 2002 in (i) Western Australia and (ii) the electoral division of Hasluck.
- (7) What percentage of Medicare services were provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001 and (g) 2002 in (i) Western Australia and (ii) the electoral division of Hasluck.

1436 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1114 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 153) concerning the appointment of Mrs Virginia Chadwick to the Board of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority and as Chief Executive Officer of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, what is the itemised nature of the remuneration package which ranges from \$170,000 to \$286,000 paid to Mrs Chadwick.
- (2) Is it Government policy that, where a former Senator or Member is entitled to hold a parliamentary pension, or a spouse or partner is in receipt of a pension, or holds an office of profit under the Crown, the pension may be reduced depending on the remuneration received for the holding of such office; if so, why is this policy position not applied to former State and Territory members of Parliament who receive parliamentary pensions.

1437 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—How many single voyage permits have been issued to single-hulled vessels in each of the last five years.

1438 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 828 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 81), is he able to say what factors are taken into account when commercial decisions are made.
- (2) Were other factors taken in to account other than commercial decisions; if so, what; if not, why not.

1439 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he able to say whether the Zimbabwean Home Affairs Minister, Kembo Mohadi, operates a policy by which state marketing of grain, the main subsistence foodstuff, is used as a mechanism to punish President Mugabe's political opponents.
- (2) Is he able to say whether Didymus Mutusa, organising Secretary of Zanu-PF and member of the Mugabe politburo, spoke in August 2002 of ethnic cleansing stating that Zimbabwe would be better off with only 6 million people, and that it did not need these extra people.
- (3) Did the Troika of Government Leaders, set up to consider the Zimbabwe election at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Brisbane and of which the Prime Minister was a member, note its disapproval of Zimbabwe and that Australia has applied the policy of Smart Sanctions, restricting the movements of senior members of the Mugabe Government and their families.
- (4) Is he also able to say whether Mr Mohadi's daughter is being educated at a private school in Australia; if so, given the Home Affairs Minister's complicity in the regime of Mr Mugabe and Australia's opposition to that regime, are there any plans to send Mr Mohadi's daughter back to Zimbabwe; if not, why not.

1440 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to part (4) of question No. 828 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 81) by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, could the Minister provide a breakdown of the vessels used for the East Timor operation by country of flag and crew.
- (2) What vessels, including the country of flag and crew, were rejected for use in the East Timor operation and why were they rejected.
- (3) What was the main difference between those vessels that were used and those that were rejected for the operation.
- (4) If price was the main factor, what caused the price differential.
- (5) What material was transported by these merchant vessels.
- (6) What material was transported by vessels with either a foreign crew or foreign flag.
- (7) What employment instrument governed the pay and conditions of the crew of each vessel.
- (8) Could the Minister provide copies of these employment instruments.

1441 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Under subsection 16(2) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*, is the Commissioner of Taxation or any other officer within the meaning of that Act statutorily precluded, directly or indirectly, from making a record of, or divulging or communicating to any person any information respecting the affairs of another person acquired by the officer.
- (2) Does the subsection preclude the Commissioner of Taxation or any other officer so prescribed from making a record or divulging any information respecting the affairs of another person so acquired within the meaning of that Act, to (a) the Bar Association of New South Wales, (b) the New South Wales Law Society, (c) the Australian Medical Association, (d) the Royal College of Surgeons and (e) other equivalent professional bodies charged with chartered disciplinary responsibilities who maintain professional standards in their respective professions.
- (3) What is the lawful procedure by which peak professional bodies may obtain taxation records for the purposes of disciplinary proceedings within their own mandated responsibilities.
- (4) How is the public interest preserved in light of the provisions of section 16 and the Commissioner of Taxation's responsibilities under the Privacy Act, in particular duties under the Information Privacy Principles.
- (5) How is the Government's public accountability and public interest served by privacy laws and other statutory powers such as those prescribed in section 16 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act*, which have the effect of denying public accountability of a person acting in a public ministry such as law, medicine, accounting, politics or other ministry.

1442 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he able to say whether, under the Privacy Act, (a) the word "record" includes an individual's taxation return held by the Commissioner of Taxation, (b) the Australian Taxation Office is an "agency", (c) the Commissioner of Taxation is a "record-keeper" and (d) the Commissioner of Taxation is bound by the Information Privacy Principles (IPP); if so, are there any exemptions.

- (2) Does IPP 11 preclude the Commissioner of Taxation from disclosing either (a) the tax return of an individual; or (b) information as to whether an individual has lodged a return for a particular year, without actual access to the information contained in a tax return itself but only information of the fact of lodgment.
- (3) Does an act of the Commissioner of Taxation in disclosing information to a peak professional body for potential disciplinary action within that profession against a practitioner member of their association, including the Bar Association of New South Wales, the New South Wales Law Society, the Australian Medical Association, the Royal College of Surgeons and other equivalent professional bodies charged with chartered disciplinary responsibilities who maintain professional standards in their respective professions, constitute a breach of the IPP 11; if so, how.
- (4) What is the procedure, if any, by which a professional body charged with disciplinary and professional standard responsibilities such as the New South Wales Bar Association and the New South Wales Law Society, may licitly obtain information critical to their disciplinary powers, including access to verifiable sources of taxation records of their members.

1443 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Does the Minister's departmental annual report list fast-jet pilot shortages and equipment shortages driven by logistics shortfalls, as problem areas for the Tactical Fighter Capability; if so, (a) how long is the logistics shortfall, (b) will the Minister detail and quantify the scope, cost and capability impact of these problems, (c) what plans are proposed, or in place, to fix these issues and (d) when will they be resolved.
- (2) What are the current and planned projects for the F-18, including costs, capability enhancement sought and schedules.
- (3) What are the costs, scope and schedules of current projects compared with original approvals.
- (4) What are the current limitations on deploying the F-18 to a hostile air defence environment.
- (5) When will these projects change these limitations.
- (6) What studies have been undertaken to check the sustainability of the F-18 fleet out to its planned withdrawal date and what further studies are under way or planned.
- (7) What has been the trend over the last decade in the cost of operating the F-18 fleet and what is the projected cost of operating the F-18 fleet to its withdrawal date.
- (8) What is the current estimate of the annual cost growth due to aircraft ageing for the F-18 fleet.
- (9) What are the risk factors that might impede the retention of the F-18 fleet out to planned withdrawal date.
- (10) What studies have been undertaken concerning an interim combat aircraft to replace the F-111 or F-18 aircraft prior to the introduction of the Joint Strike Fighter.
- (11) What would be the cost of an interim combat aircraft and how does this compare with the cost of maintaining the F-111 and F-18 fleets to their planned withdrawal dates.
- (12) By what sum would the remaining through-life cost of the F-111 and F-18 fleets need to rise to make it more cost effective to seek an interim solution.
- (13) What contingency plans are in place should either the F-111 or F-18 prove not to be sustainable out to their planned withdrawal date.

1444 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What have been the planned and achieved flying hours for the F-111 in each of the last ten years.
- (2) What has been the impact of changes in the level of training and preparedness of the air strike/reconnaissance capability as a result of reductions in the last three years.
- (3) What changes have occurred in the number of trained aircrew over the last three years.
- (4) Does the Minister's departmental annual report list as problem areas for the strike reconnaissance capability, wing cracking, fuel tank over-pressurisation, commercialisation of support functions, fuel tank de-seal/re-seal issues, ageing aircraft problems, enhancement and modification projects and shortfalls in aircrew, engineer and technical personnel; if so, (a) what has been the cost and capability impact of these problems, (b) what plans are in place to fix each of these problems and (c) when are the issues in each problem area planned to be resolved.
- (5) What are the current and planned projects for the F-111 and what are the costs and capability enhancement sought by each project.

- (6) What are the costs, scope and schedules of all current projects compared with that originally approved.
 - (7) What are the current limitations on deploying F-111 in battle air defence environments and how will these projects address these limitations.
 - (8) What studies have been undertaken on the sustainability of the F-111 fleet out to its planned withdrawal date and what further studies are planned.
 - (9) What has been the trend in the cost of operating the F-111 fleet over the last decade and what is the projected operating cost to its withdrawal date.
 - (10) What is the current estimate of the annual cost growth due to aircraft ageing for the F-111 fleet.
 - (11) What are the risk factors which might impede the retention of the F-111 fleet out to the planned withdrawal date.
- 1445 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many calls have been made to the anti-terrorist hotline number 1800 123 400 since its launch.
 - (2) What is the average number of calls per day.
 - (3) What sum has been spent setting up and running the hotline.
 - (4) What is the average cost per day of the hotline.
 - (5) What percentage of calls to the hotline has been determined to be misdirected, vexatious or frivolous.
 - (6) What percentage of calls to the hotline has been determined to be hoaxes.
 - (7) How many prosecutions have resulted from calls made to the hotline.
- 1446 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many families and individuals in the electoral division of Burke have received a Debt Notice from Centrelink for overpayment of Family Tax Benefit in (a) 2000-2001 and (b) 2001-2002.
 - (2) What was the average Family Tax Benefit debt per family or individual in the electoral division of Burke in (a) 2000-2001 and (b) 2001-2002.
 - (3) How many families or individuals received Family Tax Benefit debt notices despite having informed Centrelink within 14 days of a change in their circumstances.
 - (4) What advice are Centrelink staff giving to help reduce or prevent debt notices.
 - (5) What steps has the Minister taken to reduce the number of families and individuals receiving debt notices for 2002-2003.
- 1447 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What was the number of (a) general practitioners and (b) specialists in the electoral division of Burke in (i) 1995 and (ii) 2002.
 - (2) What was the ratio per 1000 of population of (a) general practitioners and (b) specialists, in the electoral division of Burke in the years (i) 1995 and (ii) 2002.
 - (3) What is the number and percentage of (a) general practitioners and (b) specialists that bulk billed in (i) 1995 and (ii) 2002.

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- 1448 **MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many asylum seekers have been issued with a temporary protection visa (TPV) from October 1999 to the present time.
 - (2) What was the recorded country of birth of all TPVs granted to date.
 - (3) Of those who are still in possession of a TPV at present, how many live in each (a) State and Territory, (b) capital city and (c) local government area in the Sydney and Melbourne metropolitan areas.
- 1449 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many families in the electoral division of Bowman received a Family Tax Benefit debt notice in (a) 2000-2001 and (b) 2001-2002.
 - (2) How many families with Family Tax Benefit debts in (a) 2000-2001 and (b) 2001-2002 had part or all of their tax return withheld to satisfy that debt.

1450 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many people in the electoral division of Bowman participated in Work for the Dole schemes in (a) 1999-2000, (b) 2000-2001 (c) 2001-2002.
- (2) In the same years, how many participants went on to find full-time work within (a) 3 months, (b) 6 months, (c) 9 months and (d) 12 months of completing their Work for the Dole projects.

1451 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) What is the current waiting list for (a) low care and (b) high care beds in aged care facilities in the South East Region of Brisbane.
- (2) How do these waiting lists compare with figures (a) 12 months ago, (b) two years ago and (c) five years ago.
- (3) How many (a) low care beds, (b) high care beds and (c) aged care packages have been allocated within the electoral division of Bowman.
- (4) How many (a) low care and (b) high care beds are currently operational within the electoral division of Bowman.

1452 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) What is the average time taken by the Office of the Employment Advocate (OEA) to provide a response to a (a) written request from an employee for the expiry date of the Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA) under which he/she is employed and (b) Notice of AWA Termination from an employee.
- (2) Has the OEA received requests for AWA expiry dates from employees of Burswood Resort Management Ltd. since 15 November 2002; if so, (a) how many, (b) when did the OEA receive each request and (c) on what date was a response given to each request.
- (3) Has the OEA received AWA termination notices from employees of Burswood Resort Management Ltd. since 15 November 2002; if so, (a) how many, (b) when did the OEA receive each notice, (c) on what date was a response given to each request, (d) which AWAs have been terminated and (e) what was the termination date of each AWA.

1454 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many applications have been made under the Government's refugee and humanitarian program in 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 through the embassies in Amman and Beirut, and how many of those applications have been granted.
- (2) What is the average waiting period for applicants under the refugee and humanitarian program who have applied in Amman and Beirut.

1455 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Is there a current lease at William Street Raymond Terrace for premises formerly occupied by the Member for Paterson; if so, (a) how long before the lease expires, (b) will the Minister's Department continue to pay the rent until the lease expires and (c) what is the annual rent being paid by the Department.
- (2) Does the Member for Paterson currently occupy rooms at Sturgeon Street, Raymond Terrace; if so, (a) what is the length of the lease, (b) what is the DOFA member entitlement for an electorate office area (square metres), (c) what is the area (square metres) of the office in Sturgeon Street, (d) is this area (square metres) within the DOFA member entitlement; if not, why not, (e) what is the annual rental for the property and (f) what were the relocation costs.

1456 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Science—

- (1) From which locations are the more than 30,000 packages of radioactive material routinely transported across Australia each year, and to where are they shipped.
- (2) What are the distances between starting locations and destinations over which they are transported.
- (3) How many packages are transported by (a) air, (b) rail, (c) sea and (d) road.
- (4) What is the number, and what the details, of any incidents and accidents involving vehicles carrying nuclear waste by (a) air, (b) rail, (c) sea and (d) road.

1457 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What percentage of (a) barristers and (b) solicitors failed to lodge an income tax return on time in each of the financial years ended 1992 through to 2002.
- (2) What action did the Australian Taxation Office do about this and when was it taken.

1458 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) at any time over the last seven years retained any barrister who has used bankruptcy as a means of avoiding taxation obligations; if so, (a) which barrister or barristers, (b) on how many occasions was each barrister retained and (c) what was the most recent date that each barrister was retained.
- (2) Has the ATO at any time over the last seven years retained any barrister while that person was bankrupt; if so, (a) which barrister or barristers, (b) on how many occasions was each barrister retained and (c) what was the most recent date each barrister was retained.
- (3) Was question No. 2455 asked by the Member for Barton on 26 March 2001 unanswered by the time of the dissolution of the 39th Parliament in October 2001; if so, why.

1459 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the reply to question No. 43, what is the process by which Australian Taxation Office (ATO) industry codes, also known as Business Industry Codes, within the ATO 2002 Business Industry Codes (Ref. NAT 1827-6.2002) are created and allocated.
- (2) Who within the ATO has responsibility for the creation of these codes and allocation to specific business activities.
- (3) What are the Business Industry Codes for the business activities of (a) advocate, (b) barrister, (c) conveyancing service—by qualified legal practitioners, (d) legal aid service and (e) notary and (f) solicitor.
- (4) Does he have data available through the ATO that can specify the percentage of (a) barristers and (b) solicitors who pay the top marginal rate of income tax; if so, what are those respective percentages; if not, why not.
- (5) What are the reasons why the 78410 business industry code aggregates widely divergent occupations such as those listed in part (3), in such macro and widely divergent business activities.
- (6) Is he able to distinguish data from taxation returns received by the ATO from those business activities prescribed in code 78410; if so, will he provide further particulars going to the substance of the original question No. 43.
- (7) If he is unable to so distinguish such figures, why has the ATO chosen to create business industry code 78410 which inextricably mixes these six widely divergent business activities into one amorphous code.
- (8) Will he direct the ATO to recommend creating unique business industry codes for each of the six business activities prescribed under code 78410; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (9) What means does a member of the public have in obtaining the information sought in question No. 43.
- (10) Does the ATO furnish information to the Australian Bureau of Statistics that enables that Bureau to distinguish the percentage of barristers and solicitors who pay the top marginal rate of income tax; if not, why not.

1460 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—With regard to my question No. 43 which first appeared on the Notice Paper on 13 February 2002, did he have any discussion of that question with the Commissioner for Taxation; if so, on what dates and what was Mr Carmody's advice to him.

1461 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Did he issue a news release on 28 February 2001 titled “Attorneys-General to consider compulsory reporting of bankruptcy for barristers”.
- (2) Did he say in that news release that he intended to discuss with State and Territory Ministers options for dealing with barristers who flout the tax system, such as by making it compulsory for barristers to report bankruptcy or suspending or withdrawing the right of those barristers to practise law in Australia.
- (3) When, where and with whom and on what dates did he have discussions with the State and Territory Ministers in relation to options for dealing with barristers who abuse the tax system.
- (4) What is the outcome of his discussions over the past two years with regard to what the Howard Government intends to do about members of the legal profession, particularly barristers, who are serial rorters of the taxation system.

- 1462 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has he written to the New South Wales Bar Association recommending that the bankrupt barristers identified by Paul Barry in his articles published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 26 and 27 February 2001, be struck off for malpractice; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 1463 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has he recommended to his Cabinet colleagues that the Government should amend section 16 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* to allow the Taxation Commissioner to notify professional bodies like the Law Society and Bar Associations of the activities of serial bankrupt members of the legal profession; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 1464 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Did he issue a joint news release with the Assistant Treasurer on 9 March 2001 titled “Bankruptcy and Taxation Obligations” stating that procedures would be introduced to ensure that Commonwealth Departments and agencies do not engage barristers who use bankruptcy as a means of avoiding tax.
 - (2) What procedures have been introduced over the past 23 months to ensure that Commonwealth Departments and agencies do not engage barristers who use bankruptcy as a means of avoiding tax.
- 1465 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Did he issue a joint news release with the Assistant Treasurer on 22 March 2001 titled “Bankrupt Lawyers”, advising that a taskforce had been established to determine whether any changes are needed to the bankruptcy and taxation laws to ensure that people are prevented from using bankruptcy as a means of avoiding their tax obligations.
 - (2) What action is the Government taking to strengthen the law to stop serial offenders, particularly barristers, from being made bankrupt.
- 1466 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Did he issue a News Release on 25 July 2001 titled “Getting tough on lawyers who avoid tax”.
 - (2) Following the agreement reached by the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General meeting in Darwin on 25 July 2001 to clamp down on barristers who declare themselves bankrupt in order to avoid their tax obligations, what has he done to ensure that legal practitioners who become insolvent or bankrupt will be compelled to advise their professional association of their situation.
- 1467 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a recent announcement by the Hon. John Della Bosca, NSW Minister for Industrial Relations, of the establishment of a research institute into asbestos diseases.
 - (2) Given that evidence suggests there will be an increase in asbestos related diseases over the coming years and that Australians from all States and Territories will be affected by those diseases, will the Government consider liaising with the NSW Government with a view to assisting the institute to extend its research to a national basis.
- 1468 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Was the oil tanker *Prestige* that recently broke up and sank off the Spanish coast a single hull tanker.
 - (2) Are there any incidents involving damage to single hull oil tankers in the region of the Great Barrier Reef.
 - (3) Is he able to say whether the European Parliament is considering passing legislation banning these ships from European ports.
 - (4) What is the Australian Government’s position in respect to single hull oil tankers sailing in the vicinity of the Great Barrier Reef and other world heritage listed areas.
- 1469 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many Medicare general practitioner service claims were lodged in the electoral division of Charlton in (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 1999-2000.
 - (2) How many Medicare claims were lodged by general practitioners in the electoral division of Charlton in (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 1999-2000.
 - (3) How many Medicare claims did the patient or their agent, lodge in person at a Medicare office in the electoral division of Charlton in (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 1999-2000.
 - (4) How many Medicare claims were lodged in the electoral division of Charlton by post in (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 1999-2000.
 - (5) How many Medicare claims were lodged in the electoral division of Charlton by the Easyclaim facility in (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 1999-2000.

- (6) How many Medicare Easyclaim agencies were located in the electoral division of Charlton in (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2000-2001 and (c) 1999-2000.

1471 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he able to say whether a leading Iranian reform strategist, Abbas Abdi, was sentenced in Tehran to seven years imprisonment in January 2003.
- (2) Was the crime for which Abbas Abdi was jailed for publishing an opinion poll showing that three out of four Iranians favour relations with Washington.
- (3) Was Abbas Abdi one of the students who led the takeover of the American Embassy in Tehran in 1979.
- (4) Have there been any large-scale demonstrations in Iran against Mr Abdi's jailing.
- (5) Has Australia raised the matter of Mr Abdi's jailing with the Iranian Embassy.
- (6) What is the Government's view on the jailing of Mr Abdi.
- (7) Does the Government believe the Iranian Government of Mr Khatami still enjoys the support of the large majority of Iranians who voted for its reform image, or have they lost hope that Mr Khatami can resist the Mullahs who control the military and security forces and who have jailed Mr Abdi.
- (8) Does the Government view Mr Abdi's jailing as severely damaging any prospect of democratic change within Iran.

1472 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Has the Government any intention of removing brands from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) list.
- (2) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for concession card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (3) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) treatment card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (4) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for non-concession or DVA treatment card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (5) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$23.10 during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.

1473 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals that have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (2) What was the total number of families that have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (3) What was the total number of families that have registered for the Medicare Safety Net.

1474 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals that have reached the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (2) What was the total number of families that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (3) What was the total number of individuals that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold and were not issued with a Safety Net Card during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003.
- (4) What was the total number of families that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold and were not issued with a Safety Net Card during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002 and (e) 2002-2003.

1475 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (2) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.

1476 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- (2) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.

1477 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—What percentage of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.

1478 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—What was the total number of Medicare services provided during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.

1479 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.

1480 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—What percentage of Medicare services were provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Tasmania, (ii) the electoral division of Bass and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C)

7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.

13 February 2003

MS GRIERSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1481 - 1498)—

- (1) Does the Minister's Department administer any Commonwealth funded programs for which community organisations, businesses or individuals in the electoral division of Newcastle can apply for funding; if so, what are the programs.
- (2) Does the Minister's Department advertise these funding opportunities; if so, (a) what print or other media outlets have been used for the advertising of each of these programs and (b) were these paid advertisements.
- (3) With respect to each of the Commonwealth funded programs referred to in part (1), (a) what is its purpose and (b) who is responsible for allocating funds.
- (4) With respect to each of the Commonwealth funded programs referred to in part (1), how many (a) community organisations, (b) businesses or (c) individuals in the electoral division of Newcastle received funding in 2001 and 2002.
- (5) What sum of Commonwealth funding did each recipient receive in 2001 and 2002.
- (6) What is the name and address of each recipient.

1481 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1482 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1483 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Treasurer.

1484 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1485 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1486 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1487 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1488 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

1489 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

1490 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1491 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1492 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1493 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1494 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1495 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

1496 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1497 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

1498 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

1499 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many (a) veterans, (b) war widows and war widowers and (c) spouses of veterans with an entitlement in their own right in the electoral division of Newcastle currently have a Gold Card.
- (2) How many of these (a) veterans, (b) war widows and war widowers and (c) spouses of veterans with an entitlement in their own right reside in each of the postcode areas within the electoral division of Newcastle.
- (3) How many (a) veterans, (b) war widows and war widowers and (c) spouses of veterans with an entitlement in their own right have accessed services under the Veterans Home Care program in 2001 and 2002.
- (4) Under the Veterans Home Care program, how many hours of services were provided to eligible (a) veterans, (b) war widows and war widowers and (c) spouses of veterans with an entitlement in their own right in 2001 and 2002.
- (5) What is the process whereby (a) veterans, (b) war widows and war widowers and (c) spouses of veterans with an entitlement in their own right are assessed for home care services.

- (6) Can (a) veterans, (b) war widows and war widowers and (c) spouses of veterans with an entitlement in their own right residing in low-level care hostels access services under the Veterans Home Care program or the Rehabilitation Appliances Program; if so, what are the guidelines that enable access to these programs; if not, what guidelines prevent access to the programs.

1500 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 299 (*Hansard*, 19 June 2002, page 4001), since April 2002, what representations has he made to the British Prime Minister to ensure the return of the Parthenon Marbles to Athens.
- (2) What has been the outcome of those representations.

1501 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Taxation Commissioner, Mr Michael Carmody issue a warning on 11 February 2003 to small business owners in relation to those individuals who participate in tax avoidance schemes by using fixed trusts to distribute profits into self-managed superannuation funds and thereby expect to receive the 15% concessional rate of tax.
- (2) Is the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) investigating those schemes; if so, what is the outcome of the ATO's investigation; if not, why not.
- (3) Is he aware whether any (a) barristers or (b) solicitors are (i) personally participating in or (ii) promoting these schemes to their clients; if so, how many barristers and solicitors have been identified.

1502 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—In answer to a question without notice (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4811) from the Member for Barton concerning the taskforce inquiry into wealthy barristers using bankruptcy laws to avoid tax and the Government's failure after seven months to make public or provide a response to the taskforce's report, did he state that the Government was working very hard on the report of the taskforce and that he hoped that the Government response would be seen very soon; if so, what is that response.

1503 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Further to part (5) of the answer to question No. 358 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4941 and part (7) of the answer to question No. 884 (*Hansard*, 22 October 2002, page 8391), has the Minister seen a News Release by the NSW Minister for Health on 11 February 2003, titled "MRI at Concord Hospital" advising that the Carr Labor Government has already promised to fund the significant building works required and the ongoing operating costs for a new Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) unit at Concord Repatriation General Hospital, but that the NSW Minister first needs the licence from the Federal Government.
- (2) When will the Minister offer Concord Repatriation General Hospital an MRI licence and allow it to provide Medicare eligible MRI services.

1504 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the organisational restructure of his Department in 2002, have all new positions been filled.
- (2) What, if any, changes have been made to that structure since it was announced.
- (3) Have any vacancies not been filled; if so, why.
- (4) Will he provide a copy of the final new structure, including the staffing numbers, programs and policy responsibilities of each section.

1505 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With respect to the Department's regulation of aviation security, can he say which regulations have been modified, waived or relaxed to facilitate or permit the effective conduct of the air security officer program administered by the Minister for Justice and Customs.

1506 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the reference in Senate Estimates in May 2002 to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) problems filling specialist vacancies such as in the area of aircraft certification, what employment classifications in CASA are affected by this skill shortage and what type of qualifications, training or experience is required for these positions.
- (2) How many of these positions in CASA are filled and what is CASA's optimum number for these positions.
- (3) What is the salary range for these positions.

- (4) Given Qantas, Virginblue and Rex are bringing in new aircraft, will this skill shortage impact on these airlines' timeframes for obtaining the CASA certifications required.
- (5) Is CASA taking any remedial action to develop this skill set in Australia; if so, what; if not, why not.
- 1507 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Will he provide a list of recommendations arising from the most recent International Civil Aviation Organisation audit of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's operations, including the Government's proposed response to each recommendation and timeframe for concluding that action.
- 1508 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Is the Civil Aviation Safety Authority developing new regulations for maintenance and manufacturing organisations; if so, (a) will these regulations harmonise with skill requirements for workers between Australia and other aviation nations; if not, why not and (b) has the issue of portability of skills for this industry internationally been given any consideration; if so, how and what was the outcome; if not, why not.
- 1509 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) With respect to the increase in Regulatory Service Fees listed on page 91 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) 2001-2002 annual report, will he provide a breakdown of which services generated the additional \$300 000 increase in revenue.
 - (2) Which fees increased, by what sum, when was each fee first applied and to which part of the aviation industry is the fee paid.
 - (3) What was the fee for each of these services in each year since the establishment of CASA in 1995.
- 1510 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has a review been undertaken of the Navigation Act; if so, (a) who conducted the review, (b) was a report produced, (c) when will it be available to the public, (d) what did the review recommend, (e) what is the status of the recommendations, (f) when will the industry be consulted and (g) when will they be implemented.
- 1511 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With respect to the payment of en route air traffic control charges for certain regional aircraft, (a) what has been the cost of the program to date, (b) what sum has been paid and (c) on behalf of which airlines have payments been made.
- 1512 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has the P&O *Adelaide* been operating on the Australian coast on continuing voyage permits since 24 October 2000; if not, what permits have been issued to it and when were they issued
 - (2) How many permits have been issued, on which dates and for the carriage of what cargo, how many crew were employed on the vessel for each voyage or pattern of voyages and which Australian operators were contacted to ensure no Australian vessel was available for each voyage.
 - (3) Was any other Australian rail or road transport operator available to transport this cargo; if not, why not.
 - (4) For each permit, if an Australian vessel was not available at the time the permit was issued, when would have one been available.
 - (5) For each of these voyages under a single or continuing voyage permit, what type of tax, if any, was paid by the operators, crew or owners of the vessel and what employment framework covered the crew.
 - (6) Is this vessel registered in The Netherlands, managed from Cyprus and crewed by Polish and Filipino nationals.
- 1513 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did he or his Department ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs to exercise his powers under section 33 (2)(b)(ii) of the Migration Act to establish a new type of Special Purpose Visa category for crews on vessels operating under single and continuous voyage permits:
 - (2) In what way, if any, will this impact on the issuance of single and continuing voyage permits.
 - (3) Will vessel operators working the coast on a continuing voyage permit issued for six months be required to exit Australian waters after the expiration of crew's special purpose visas after three months, if not why not.
 - (4) Will a new limit of three months be set for continuing voyage permits.
 - (5) Does this decision indicate that his Department has been remiss by continuing to issue permits to create a situation that did not clearly adhere to all Australian laws, such as immigration law.

- (6) How does the introduction of this new category of visa ensure that coastal trading is not opened up in such a way as to remove opportunities for Australian workers as stated by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

1514 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) With respect to his decision to exercise his powers under section 33 (2)(b)(ii) of the Migration Act to establish a new type of Special Purpose Visa category for crews on vessels operating under single and continuous voyage permits, how does the introduction of this new category of visa ensure that coastal trading is not opened up in such a way as to remove opportunities for Australian workers.
- (2) Can a crew member be issued with subsequent special visas after the expiry of the first; if so, (a) what is the minimum gap, if any, between the two permits and (b) are there any other requirements on re-issue, such as a requirement to leave Australian waters; if not, why not.

1515 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1267 and his answer that most of the 77 people arrested by Malaysian authorities for alleged links to KMM or JI were Malaysian and two were Indonesian, (a) what other nationalities were amongst the remainder of the suspects and (b) are these suspects from the countries in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).
- (2) Is he able to say what are the exemptions for OIC visitors arriving in Malaysia.
- (3) Why is the Australian Government not in a position to explain Malaysian immigration policy.
- (4) Is he able to say whether (a) the Malaysian Government has made any public announcements or (b) there have been press reports, on the no visa requirement to enter Malaysia or OIC countries.
- (5) Have Australian authorities sought a briefing from the Malaysian Government or its representatives about any change in policy since the arrests of KMM/JI suspects; if not, why not.
- (6) Since the JI bombing of Bali and given JI's relations with Al Qaeda, does the Government see any danger in the ease of entry to Malaysia of OIC citizens; if not, why not.

1516 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Over the last three financial years, what programs has the Government operated or funded through non government organisations to assist young Australians at risk of suicide or for youth suicide prevention programs.
- (2) Over the last three financial years, what sum of funding was given to which organisations.

1518 **MR BALDWIN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) What is the current electoral office address for the Member for (a) Hunter, (b) Charlton, (c) Shortland and (d) Newcastle.
- (2) When was each office established at those addresses.
- (3) What is the length of each lease.
- (4) Who are the owners of the properties and if it is a company, who are the directors of that company.
- (5) What is the DOFA member entitlement for an electorate office area in square metres.
- (6) What is the area in square metres of each office.
- (7) Is the area within the DOFA member entitlement; if not, why not.
- (8) What is the annual rental for each property.
- (9) What were the relocation costs.
- (10) What was the previous electoral office address for the Member for (a) Hunter, (b) Charlton, (c) Shortland and (d) Newcastle.
- (11) When was each office established at those addresses.
- (12) What was the length of each lease.
- (13) Who were the owners of the properties and if it was a company, who were the directors of that company.
- (14) During the period of each lease, what was the DOFA member entitlement for an electorate office area in square metres.
- (15) What was the area in square metres of each office.
- (16) Was the area within the DOFA member entitlement; if not, why not.
- (17) What was the annual rental for each property.
- (18) What were the relocation, lease finalisation and restitution costs.

1519 **MR BALDWIN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) What was the previous electoral office address for the Member for Paterson.
- (2) When was the office established at that address.
- (3) What was the length of the lease.
- (4) Who were the owners of the property and if it was a company, who were the directors of that company.
- (5) During the period of the lease, what was the DOFA member entitlement for an electorate office area in square metres.
- (6) What was the area in square metres of the office.
- (7) Was the area within the DOFA member entitlement; if not, why not.
- (8) What was the annual rental for the property.
- (9) What abnormal costs were involved in the establishment of that office.
- (10) What were the relocation, lease finalisation and restitution costs.

3 March 2003

1520 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) What is the total number of (a) Community Aged Care packages and (b) Extended Aged Care at Home packages that can be accessed by residents of (i) the ACT, (ii) NSW, (iii) Vic., (iv) Qld, (v) SA, (vi) WA, (g) Tas. and (h) the NT.
- (2) What is the total number of (a) Community Aged Care packages and (b) Extended Aged Care at Home packages that can be accessed by residents in the electoral divisions of (i) Cowan, (ii) Curtin, (iii) Kalgoorlie, (iv) Pearce, (v) Canning, (vi) Forrest, (vii) Tangney, (viii) Moore, (iv) Cowan, (x) Stirling, (xi) Hasluck, (xii) Fremantle, (xiii) Brand, (xiv) Perth and (xv) Swan.
- (3) What is the total number of (a) Community Aged Care packages and (b) Extended Aged Care at Home packages that can be accessed by residents in the postcode areas of (i) 6055, (ii) 6056, (iii) 6057, (iv) 6058, (v) 6076, (vi) 6107, (vii) 6108, (viii) 6109 and (ix) 6110.
- (4) Is the main difference between a Community Aged Care package and an Extended Aged Care at Home package that the latter provides for nursing care in addition to general respite care; if not, why not.
- (5) Is it more cost-effective for an aged person living in his or her own home to obtain the assistance of an Extended at Home Care package, rather than occupy a bed in an aged care facility.
- (6) How many, and which, suburbs in Australia have no access to Extended Aged Care at Home packages.
- (7) What other assistance is available to residents who live in suburbs with no access to Extended Aged Care at Home packages to allow them to remain at home.

1521 **MRL. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What household items are provided to eligible humanitarian entrants under the Household Formation Support (HFS) element of the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS).
- (2) Are items such as lounge furniture, wardrobes and chests of drawers excluded from the list of approved items; if so, is it assumed that charities will provide humanitarian entrants with such items out of their own resources.
- (3) Are contracted service providers funded a set sum per household to provide approved household items; if so, what is this sum and on what basis was it determined.
- (4) Have HFS service providers expressed concern about their capacity to provide adequate HFS assistance to clients within the current financial constraints of the scheme; if so, what has been the response of his Department.

1522 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—What are the (a) names, (b) addresses and (c) hours of operation of organisations that are part of the Job Network in the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.

1523 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Attorney-General—On the most recent data, what is the incidence of reported crime by type in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v)

7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.

- 1524 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many Newstart allowance recipients reside in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1525 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many Family Payment Greater than Minimum recipients reside in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1526 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many disability support pension recipients reside in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1527 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many age pension recipients reside in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1528 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many parenting payment single recipients reside in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1529 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—On most recent data, how many Child Support Agency clients reside in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1530 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—On the most recent data, how many youth allowance recipients reside in (a) Tasmania and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1531 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—On the most recent data, what sum in child care assistance per child per annum was allocated to (a) family, (b) private long and (c) community long day care in (i) Australia, (ii) Tasmania and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 7248, (B) 7249, (C) 7250, (D) 7252, (E) 7253, (F) 7254, (G) 7255, (H) 7257, (I) 7258, (J) 7259, (K) 7260, (L) 7261, (M) 7262, (N) 7263, (O) 7264, (P) 7265, (Q) 7267, (R) 7268, (S) 7277 and (T) 7212.
- 1532 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit in the electoral division of Bass received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 7248, (ii) 7249, (iii) 7250, (iv) 7252, (v) 7253, (vi) 7254, (vii) 7255, (viii) 7257, (ix) 7258, (x) 7259, (xi) 7260, (xii) 7261, (xiii) 7262, (xiv) 7263, (xv) 7264, (xvi) 7265, (xvii) 7267, (xviii) 7268, (xix) 7277 and (xx) 7212.
- 1533 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—
- (1) How many community based child care centres are there in the electoral division of Bass.
 - (2) Who is the managing authority for each centre.
 - (3) What is the name and address of each centre.
 - (4) What sum of Commonwealth funding in real dollars did each centre receive in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97, (c) 1997-98, (d) 1998-99, (e) 1999-2000, (f) 2000-2001 and (g) 2001-2002.
- 1534 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Will he provide details of daily activities for refugees in detention centres, including meals, meal times and recreational activities.

1535 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is she aware that an increasing number of doctors are opting out of servicing Gold Card holders.
- (2) What additional steps will she take to ensure that Gold Card recipients are getting adequate medical treatment.

1536 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Was there a failure of telecommunications services in Omeo on Saturday, 25 January 2003.
- (2) Are telecommunications to Omeo provided through two switching centres at Wangaratta and Morwell.
- (3) Was there an optic fibre failure from Wangaratta and a mains power failure to Morwell and the Morwell telephone exchange which led to the isolation of Omeo and surrounding areas.
- (4) Was backup power provided at the Morwell exchange through local power generation equipment, and was the capacity of the equipment adequate to cover the mains power failure.
- (5) What arrangements have been put in place to prevent such a serious failure happening again.
- (6) Was the telecommunications failure at Morwell similar to previous mains power cuts at Pakenham and Kyneton telephone exchanges which also led to major telecommunications outages.
- (7) What arrangements are in place to monitor such failures.

1537 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Since the Government's election in 1996 to the present day, how many visas has he personally cancelled.
- (2) Will he provide a time line for the cancellations.
- (3) In each case, what type of visa was held.
- (4) On what grounds was each visa cancelled.
- (5) Why were the visas cancelled by him rather than a delegate, thus ruling out any right of administrative review.
- (6) What are the guidelines for the cancellation of a visa by the Minister, as opposed to a delegate.
- (7) Can he provide details of any changes since the introduction of the scheme for visa cancellation on character grounds centred on s.501 of the Migration Act in relation to (a) the proportion of cancellation decisions made by the Minister personally, rather than by delegates and (b) the policies or guidelines applying to the question of whether and when such decisions are to be made by the Minister personally, rather than by delegates.
- (8) In relation to the introduction of any such changes, what consideration was given to the fact that a person whose visa is cancelled in this way by the Minister personally has no right of independent review by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT), whereas there is such a right of review when the decision is made by a delegate.
- (9) Was one of the reasons for the introduction of any such change a desire to remove the right of independent review in the AAT.

1538 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What are the procedures visitors must follow when delivering parcels to individual asylum seekers in detention.
- (2) What can be delivered.
- (3) When can items be delivered.
- (4) What checks are performed on packages.
- (5) Can visitors give packages directly to detainees; if not, why not.
- (6) Who is responsible for ensuring a package is delivered to a detainee.
- (7) Is it the case that until recently visitors could not leave packages for more than one detainee at a time; if so, (a) when was this policy changed, (b) why was this limit imposed and (c) why was the policy changed.
- (8) What is the reason for this policy.
- (9) Was it set by the Government or by a private security firm.
- (10) Are there records on the number of packages delivered to detainees; if so, will he provide details.

- 1539 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many RAAF aircraft will be used in the fly-overs during the Australian Grand Prix to be held in Melbourne in March 2003.
 - (2) What is the overall cost of this exercise.
 - (3) What is the fuel cost for the exercise.
 - (4) Does the exercise conform to RAAF standard operating procedures, particularly with regard to safety and civilian areas.
 - (5) What has been the cost of the fly-overs over the years that Melbourne has had the Grand Prix.
 - (6) Did the Minister's Department or office receive complaints from the public regarding this practice in 2002.
 - (7) Can the expenditure of this amount of money on fly-overs for the Australian Formula One Grand Prix be justified in the context of the financial situation of the Minister's Department.
 - (8) Should the Grand Prix Corporation pay for the fly-overs.
- 1540 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What is the procedure for raising and recovering a debt against Centrelink clients.
 - (2) What is stated in any letter informing clients of the debt.
 - (3) At what stage do payments start to be reduced in order to repay the debt.
 - (4) What happens to repayments or reduced payments when appeals to an Authorised Review Officer, Social Security Appeals Tribunal, the Administrative Appeals Tribunal or the courts are pending.
 - (5) What happens to repayments or reduced payments in the time allowed for an appeal following an adverse decision.
- 1541 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the answer to question No. 1180 (*Hansard*, 13 February 2003, page 903), how many single hulled bulk carriers worked on the Australian coastline in each of the past two years and of these, how many have been given single or continuing voyage permits to operate in Australia's domestic trade.
- 1542 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can a vessel operate under, or be issued with, more than one continuing voyage permit (CVP) at a time; if so, what circumstances and which vessels are currently operating under more than one permit.
 - (2) Can a vessel be operating under a single voyage permit (SVP) and a CVP at the same time.
 - (3) What is the process in place to ensure all conditions on a permit are complied with and what is the process and penalty that applies if one or more conditions is found to be breached.
 - (4) Does the issuance of a CVP for particular ports cancel another CVP for the same port for a vessel.
 - (5) How many times have breaches of CVP or SVP conditions been discovered in each of the past five years and what action occurred as a consequence of each breach.
 - (6) Does the Transport Regulation Division maintain a record of the date of voyage and cargo carried by a ship for which the Division is required to be notified within fourteen days of each sailing by a vessel as a term of its CVP.
 - (7) Is it still the case that the Minister cannot cancel or revoke a single or continuing voyage permit if a breach of a condition of a permit is found to occur.
 - (8) Is it still the case that the Minister cannot suspend a single or continuing voyage permit if it is alleged or suspected a breach of a condition of a permit has occurred or is occurring.
- 1543 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the UK's Stewart Group Report on mobile phones.
 - (2) Did the Stewart Group recommend that the widespread use of mobile phones by children for non-essential calls should be discouraged and that the mobile phone industry should refrain from promoting the use of mobile phones by children, and was the recommendation accepted by the UK Government; if so, (a) what is the Australian Government's current position on mobile phone use by children and (b) will the Government take any action to minimise mobile phone use by children; if not, why not.
 - (3) Did the Stewart Group recommend the establishment of clearly defined physical exclusion zones around mobile base stations to which the UK Government agreed; if so, do such zones exist under

Australian regulations; if not, why not and will the Government introduce exclusion zones around current base stations.

- (4) Did the Stewart Group recommend a national database be set up by Government giving details of all base stations and their emissions; if so, does such a publicly available database exist in Australia; if not, will the Government consider introducing one; if not, why not.
- (5) Did the Stewart Group recommend an independent random on-going audit of all base stations be carried out to ensure they are operating within exposure guidelines; if so, does such a process exist in Australia; if not, will the Government consider introducing such a process; if not, why not.
- (6) Did the Stewart Group pose certain recommendations in relation to mobile base stations in or near school grounds to which the UK Government agreed; if so, are there any specific regulations covering the installation of mobile base stations in or near school grounds in Australia; if not, why not.
- (7) Are there any specific regulations in Australia stating that mobile base stations should not be within a certain distance of household residences; if not, why not.

1544 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—

- (1) Has the Federal Government provided funding for flood mitigation works in Fairfield City, NSW.
- (2) In what year was the funding discontinued.
- (3) For what reason was funding discontinued.
- (4) What sums does the Government expend on the Regional Flood Mitigation Program.
- (5) Does the Regional Flood Mitigation Program allow for funding for works in outer metropolitan areas; if so, (a) what outer metropolitan areas have received funding under the program and (b) why is Fairfield City not included in the definition of outer metropolitan.

1545 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—How many (a) barristers and (b) solicitors paid the top marginal rate of income tax during the financial year ended 30 June 2001.

1546 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has he seen a copy of the Cole Royal Commission report into the building industry.
- (2) What action will he take against the directors of the so-called “Phoenix” companies in the building industry whom Commissioner Cole has (a) exposed for serially abandoning workers of their legitimate entitlements and (b) identified as engaging in the stripping of companies to avoid the payment of tax to the Australian Taxation Office, similar to the “bottom-of-the-harbour” operators of the 1960s and 1970s.

1547 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of the common law rule and administrative law maxim that justice must not only be done, it must manifestly be seen to be done.
- (2) Is he also aware that, in the Commissioner of Taxation’s annual report on the activities of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) for the year 2000-2001, there is a chapter titled “Legal Profession Project” (LPP) dealing with persistent tax debtors.
- (3) Does the chapter provide important information in the public interest relating to (a) the investigation of 62 barristers with current practising certificates who had been bankrupt or entered into Bankruptcy Act Part X arrangements in the past decade, (b) strategies for dealing with serial bankrupt barristers, (c) proposed action in relation to the prosecution of 104 barristers who had failed to respond to a demand for lodgment of a tax return by the due date and (d) the Commissioner of Taxation meeting with the NSW Bar Association to share information and discuss opportunities to work together.
- (4) With regard to the sharing of information between the NSW Bar Association and, in light of section 16 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* (ITAA), (a) what authority does the Commissioner of Taxation have to share such information with the NSW Bar Association, (b) has the Commissioner of Taxation actually shared such information with the NSW Bar Association; if so, what is the nature, or what are the details, of this information and by what legal authority and statutory or other power has the Commissioner shared this information, (c) is the statement on page 63 of the annual report that: the Commissioner has met with the NSW Bar Association to share information and discuss opportunities to work together false; if not, why not and (d) if the Commissioner of Taxation has not met with the NSW Bar Association in furtherance of the annual report 2000-01, when will the Commissioner so meet.
- (5) What power is the Commissioner of Taxation actually using when sharing information referred to in parts (3) and (4), and is this power (a) a power under section 16 of the ITAA; if so, what provision of

that section; if not, why not, (b) a power under the exclusionary or exceptions provisions of the Information Privacy Principles under section 14 of the *Privacy Act 1988*; if so, what power; if not, why not, (c) some other statutory power under the ITAA, Privacy Act, other taxation, secrecy, privacy or other statute law; if so, what is that power; if not, why not, (d) a common law power; if so, what is that power, (e) an administrative power; if so, what is that power, (f) a prerogative power; if so, what is that power or (g) some other power; if so, what is that power.

- (6) What priority is the Commissioner of Taxation giving to the prosecution of serial bankrupt barristers, in particular the prosecution of the 104 cases mentioned in the annual report.
- (7) What remedy is there to eliminate the high number of barristers who fail to lodge a tax return and fail to pay their assessed and fair share of tax.

1548 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Why does the 2001-2002 annual report on the activities of the Australian Taxation Office omit a chapter titled “Legal Profession Project” (LPP) which appeared in the 2000-2001 annual report.
- (2) Where can the report of the activities of the LPP be found for the period 2001-2002.
- (3) Does the LPP still exist; if so, what is the nature of its work and to whom does it report.

1549 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the information provided at page 63 by the Commissioner of Taxation in the annual report of 2000-2001 that 590 barristers had income tax debts of about \$52 million, what is the current sum of the outstanding tax debt to be collected from barristers in NSW.
- (2) Does the drop in the number of barristers with outstanding debts from 590 to 432 from 1999-2000 to the 2000-2001 demonstrate the success of the Legal Profession Project (LPP); if so, how; if not, why not.
- (3) Is the success in the project supported by the statistics cited by the Commissioner of Taxation on page 63 of the 2000-2001 annual report that overall the number of cases for barristers decreased 26 per cent, and the total debt dropped 14 per cent; if so, how; if not, why not.
- (4) Did he see that segment of the annual report at page 64 titled “Be more involved with trustees” in which the cases of *Re: Davison – Special Case to the Full Court of the Federal Court* and subsequently reported as *In the matter of Davison, Donnelly v Davison [2000] FCA 1396 (6 October 2000)* are cited; if so, how has the Commissioner of Taxation more vigorously pursued debt recovery involving barristers using trusts to avoid tax.
- (5) Has he been made aware of the five judgments in the Federal Court of Australia of (a) *Prentice v Cummins* [2002] FCA 1140 (13 September 2002), (b) *Prentice v Cummins* [2002] FCA 1165 (19 September 2002), (c) *Prentice v Cummins* [2002] FCA 1172 (19 September 2002), (d) *Prentice v Cummins* (No. 4) [2002] FCA 1215 (2 October 2002) and (e) *Prentice v Cummins* (No. 5) [2002] FCA 1503 (5 December 2002); if not, why not.
- (6) In the matter of *Prentice v Cummins* No.5 (Fed Ct Ref N7481 of 2002) is he aware that the reported judgment notes that Mr Cummins became bankrupt by his own petition in December 2000 and that between 1995 and early 2000, Mr Cummins failed to lodge any income tax returns and owed an estimated \$955,672.92 in unpaid taxes to the Commissioner of Taxation.
- (7) Is he aware that the said report in N7481 notes that the trustees of the bankrupt estate of Mr Cummins seek to recover certain property or funds said to have been transferred by Mr Cummins to his wife and to the trustee of the Cummins Family Trust.
- (8) Is he aware that, in like fashion, there was also an intent to transfer property out of the reach of creditors in the pending proceedings before a full examination by the Federal Court of Australia on 19-20 February 2003 in the matter of Mr Stephen Archer, a former barrister now the subject of his third serial bankruptcy.
- (9) In light of the similarity of facts between the Cummins and Archer matters with intent to transfer property out of reach of creditors, can he say whether the Commissioner of Taxation is prosecuting with full force, his powers under section 121 of the Bankruptcy Act and elsewhere, with respect to those 590 barristers deliberately transferring property or other assets so as to defeat creditors, principally, the Commissioner of Taxation; if so, how; if not, why not.
- (10) What is the number and percentage of those 590 barristers who are engaged in activities to defeat creditors involving (a) the transfer of their personal assets into family trusts, (b) the transfer of their personal assets to their spouses and (c) other transfers, gifts etc. whilst still having significant outstanding debts to creditors, principally the Commissioner of Taxation.

- (11) Is he able to say how widespread is the practice of what may be described as asset stripping amongst barristers in NSW and in the other membership lists of the Bar Associations of all the States and Territories; if so, how; if not, why not.

1550 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the Commissioner of Taxation's annual report of 2000-2001 in which it is reported that the Commissioner has demanded that 771 barristers lodge tax returns, (a) how many returns have been lodged by those 771 barristers and (b) how many returns are outstanding.
- (2) What are the details of the "outstanding years" of those 771 barristers who have one or more years of outstanding tax returns.
- (3) With respect to the Commissioner of Taxation's report that only 56 per cent of the NSW Bar Association were current with their tax returns, what are the current numerical and percentile break-ups of both data and statistics in number of years for outstanding non-lodgments of tax returns by barristers in NSW.
- (4) What action is being taken to arrest the high percentile of barristers who have one or more years of outstanding income tax returns.
- (5) What does the Commissioner of Taxation define as a serial offender of non-compliance with taxation law, in particular, non-lodgment of tax returns.
- (6) Is a serial offender a barrister with a history of (a) two or more consecutive years of non-lodgment or (b) two or more years of non-lodgment, whether consecutive or not, or is there some other definition; if so, what is that definition.
- (7) What is the total number of barristers registered throughout all Bar Association Registries in each of the States and Territory Bar Associations, who have described themselves by this occupation when filing and for the purposes of lodging their tax returns.
- (8) Can he confirm the existence of certain barristers who declare themselves to be within either (a) Australian Taxation Office Business Industry Codes (BIC) or (b) other occupations other than as barrister as defined under the BIC or as a barrister yet lodging under another BIC, yet still be practising effectively as a barrister for fee for service; if so, what is the number and percentile of those barristers practising yet not declaring themselves to be barristers for taxation purposes.

1551 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the omission of the activities of the Legal Profession Project from the Commissioner of Taxation's annual report of 2001-2002 have any relationship with the revelations that disgraced barrister John Cummins QC had not lodged an income tax return for forty-five years; if not, why not.
- (2) Will the Commissioner of Taxation report on the activities of the Legal Profession Project in future annual reports; if not, why not.

1552 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report by Valerie Lawson titled "Tax-free QC wigs up for the old day job" which appeared on page 3 of *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 26 February 2003 and claiming that Mr Clarrie Stevens, QC had not paid any income tax for more than fifteen years.
- (2) Is he aware that the report notes that Mr Stevens is known to be in practise for 28 years, a senior counsel for 11 years and specialised in tax advice for much of his career?
- (3) Is he able to say on what grounds the Supreme Court of NSW granted an extension of time in which Mr Stevens could file an appeal against being removed from the roll and under what power did Mr Stevens seek this extension; if so, what are those grounds and what is the power; if not, why not.
- (4) What action is he taking to ensure that the common law and administrative maxim that justice is not only done, but manifestly seen to be done is applied to ensure that public confidence is restored to the legal profession.
- (5) What legislative or other action is he taking to arrest the problem of practising barristers who are serial rorters of the legal system using taxation, family law and bankruptcy provisions to systematically suit their own ends

MR M. J. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1553 - 1555)—

- (1) With respect to the additional \$8 per passenger increase in the Passenger Movement Charge that came into effect on 1 July 2001 to fund increased passenger processing costs as part of Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease, what is the total additional revenue raised by the charge in (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 to date.

- (2) What is the total additional revenue estimated to be raised by the charge in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, (c) 2004-2005 and (d) 2005-2006.
- (3) What is the total sum of Passenger Movement Charge collected at each airport and port in (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 to date.
- (4) What is the total sum of Passenger Movement Charge estimated to be collected at each airport and port in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, (c) 2004-2005 and (d) 2005-2006.
- (5) What sum has been spent by the Government on new quarantine screening equipment at each airport and port since 1 July 2001.
- (6) How much additional money has the Government spent on other quarantine processing costs at each airport and port since 1 July 2001 and what services, measures or expenses comprise that additional expenditure at each airport and port.
- (7) How much additional money is estimated to be spent on new quarantine screening equipment and other processing costs, respectively, at each airport and port in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, (c) 2004-2005 and (d) 2005-2006.
- (8) Which programs are administering costs associated with increased passenger processing costs as part of Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease and what sum has been spent, and is estimated to be spent, from each program in each year it has operated, or is budgeted to operate, and which Department is responsible for the administration of each program.
- (9) Are there any outstanding claims by any organisation or individual for expenditure on equipment or measures as part of Australia's response to the threat of foot and mouth disease; if so, (a) who are the claimants, (b) what is the claim for and (c) will each be paid; if so, when.
- (10) How many passengers departing Australia were exempted from paying the Passenger Movement Charge and what is the legal basis and number of passengers for each category of exempted passengers.
- (11) Will the \$8 foot and mouth response component of the Passenger Movement Charge be removed, increased or reduced commensurate with the movement in costs associated with Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease; if so, when; if not, why not.

1553 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1554 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1555 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

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1556 **MR KERR:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many judgments of the Family Court of Australia are currently reserved for a period longer than the three month limit set by the Court itself.
- (2) How many of those matters are judgments in relation to applications for interim orders which should be dealt with urgently.
- (3) Is there any information on judicial delay on a state by state basis; if so, will he provide that information.
- (4) Has the failure to produce a timely judgment prejudiced the parties in any of these proceedings; if so, in what way.
- (5) What remedies do parties have if the outcome of their proceedings may have been, or is significantly affected by, delay in the giving of judgment.

1557 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Will he provide a list of all activities undertaken by the Department of Defence since January 2001, in particular troop deployments and training exercises, which required exemptions under the EPBC Act.
- (2) Where activities were undertaken without exemptions, can he provide an explanation as to why no exemption was required.

1558 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Will the Minister provide details, by electorate, listing which areas have received funds from the Television Black Spots Program.
- (2) How much of the money allocated under the Television Black Spots Program has been spent.

- (3) Which areas in Western Australia have received funds from rounds 1 or 2 of the Television Black Spots Program.
- (4) What percentage of the Television Black Spots Program funding was allocated to the capital cities.
- 1559 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Is he aware of any schools being forced to suspend the Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme until next financial year due to a lack of funding, if so, how many schools have been affected.
- (2) Can he confirm if any schools in the Stirling electorate have been notified by the Aboriginal Education Unit of the Department of Education, Science and Training that there is no more money to continue this vital program until the new financial year.
- 1560 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) Who is eligible for inclusion in the Nominal Roll of Vietnam Veterans and what period does the Nominal Roll cover.
- (2) Are there any Australian Defence Force personnel who served in the Active War Zone of South Vietnam, not prior to, but after, the Paris Agreement was signed on 27 January 1973, included in the Nominal Roll.
- 1561 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he aware of the recent efforts of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) to investigate psychiatric mal-treatment of political dissidents by the Chinese authorities.
- (2) Is he aware of Mr Robin Munro's book *Dangerous Minds*, which details these abuses by the Chinese authorities.
- (3) Does he know (a) how many political dissidents are being held in psychiatric facilities, (b) how they are being treated, (c) if Munro's book accurately describes their treatment, and (d) if concerns expressed at the WPA conference in Japan are warranted.
- (4) What, if any, representations have been made to the Chinese government about these abuses of psychiatry.
- (5) Has this matter been brought up in the Australia-China Human Rights Dialogue.
- 1562 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) Can he confirm that a copy of the Cole Royal Commission Report into the building industry has been given to the Governor-General.
- (2) Who else has been provided with a copy of this report.
- (3) When will this report be made publicly available.

5 March 2003

- 1563 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How was the Wide Bay Area Consultative Committee's Regional Vision tour funded.
- (2) Who were the proponents of this project.
- (3) Who approved this project for funding.
- (4) How much did the tour cost.
- (5) Who went on the tour for which days.
- (6) On what specifically were program funds spent.
- (7) If funding for the tour was provided by the Department of Transport and Regional Services, have any other tours of regional areas by Departmental officers been funded by (a) the Regional Assistance Program, (b) Area Consultative Committee allocations, or (c) the Sustainable Regions Program.
- 1564 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—In relation to the (a) Regional Solutions Program, (b) Regional Assistance Program, (c) Rural Transaction Centres, (d) Sustainable Regions Program, and (e) Dairy Regional Assistance Program, what is the value of projects approved for funding in each State and Territory, each month, from 1 July 2002 to 31 March 2003.
- 1565 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the answer to question No. 335 (*Hansard*, 3 March 2003, page 997) concerning the operation of Airservices Australia during the recent industrial action by Airservices staff, (a) what contingency arrangements required legal advice and what was that advice and (b) what incidents were reported during the declaration of temporary restricted airspace, which incident is still under investigation and, if that investigation has subsequently concluded, what was the outcome.

1566 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that it can reduce the number of Air Traffic Controllers to 18 if the Perth Terminal Control Unit (TCU) is relocated to the Melbourne air traffic services facility; if so, (a) what analysis has been conducted to verify that this reduced number is achievable, (b) has a base roster been produced to demonstrate that adequate console coverage, leave relief and training requirements can be achieved with 18 Air Traffic Controllers and if not, why not, and (c) what analysis has been done to show that the Perth TCU will require only 18 Air Traffic Controllers in Melbourne but more than that number in situ and, if no analysis has been undertaken, why not.
- (2) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that it can reduce the number of Air Traffic Controllers to 15 if the Adelaide TCU is relocated to the Melbourne air traffic services facility; if so, (a) what analysis has been conducted to verify that this reduced number is achievable, (b) has a base roster been produced to demonstrate that adequate console coverage, leave relief and training requirements can be achieved with 15 controllers and if not, why not, and (c) what analysis has been completed to show that the Adelaide TCU will only require 15 Air Traffic Controllers in Melbourne but more than that number in situ and, if no analysis has been undertaken, why not.
- (3) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that it can reduce the number of Air Traffic Controllers to 66 if the Sydney TCU is relocated to the Melbourne air traffic services facility; if so, (a) what analysis has been conducted to verify that this reduced number is achievable, (b) has a base roster been produced to demonstrate that adequate console coverage, leave relief and training requirements can be achieved with 66 controllers and if not, why not, and (c) what analysis has been done to show that the Sydney TCU will only require 66 Air Traffic Controllers in Melbourne but more than that number in situ and, if no analysis has been undertaken, why not.
- (4) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that 34 support positions, including management, training and data staff can be made redundant if the Sydney TCU is relocated to the Melbourne air traffic services facility; if so, what documented analysis has been conducted to determine how each job can be made redundant without adding extra resources in Melbourne; if no analysis has been completed, why not.
- (5) Has Airservices Australia developed a detailed resource and training plan for TCU consolidation that identifies: (a) where each replacement terminal controller will be sourced, (b) where additional controllers will be sourced to release others to TCU training, (c) how normal ongoing training, including ab initio, refresher, cross stream and project and procedure development training requirements will be accommodated, and (d) what training staff and resources will be required to meet this training demand; if not, why not.
- (6) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that it will rely on third-party service providers to transfer communication, radar and computer data to the Perth, Adelaide and Sydney TCUs if they are consolidated to the Melbourne centre and if so, are the existing reliability levels of these third-party provided systems adequate for a consolidated TCU structure.
- (7) Is it the case that the third-party maintained radio link between the Sydney and Brisbane oceanic sector failed at least 11 times last year and that the satellite links that relay radio and/or radar data to the Melbourne and Brisbane centres failed at least four times since January 2001; if so, how will Airservices Australia ensure these failures will not continue to occur if TCU consolidation goes ahead.
- (8) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that TCU consolidation will “*provide the basis for increased standardisation and safety in the future*”; if so, (a) what documented analysis of existing procedures has been completed that identifies those that require increased standardisation, (b) what remedial plans have been developed that will ensure that increased standardisation will be achieved by a consolidated TCU structure, (c) what safety deficiencies have been identified and documented with the present distributed TCU structure, and (d) what documented analysis has been completed that proves that consolidating the TCUs to Melbourne will rectify these deficiencies.
- (9) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that TCU consolidation will “*reduce cost of service delivery and thereby the price*” charged to the aviation industry and that the amount of the planned reductions in charges to the aviation industry would be finalised at the end of the consultation period that ended in 2002; if so, (a) what is the amount of the cost reduction calculated by Airservices Australia if TCU consolidation goes ahead, and (b) has Airservices Australia calculated the difference between the charges that would apply if TCU consolidation proceeds compared to those that would apply if it does not, and if not, why not.

- (10) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that TCU consolidation will “*ensure service delivery is appropriately structured*”; if so, (a) what analysis has been conducted to identify deficiencies in Airservices Australia’s present service delivery standards, (b) what plans have been developed to ensure that TCU consolidation will result in appropriately structured service delivery, and (c) what benefits will result for Airservices Australia’s customers when service delivery is appropriately structured.
- (11) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that “*probably one of the greater benefits of integration is the possibility that is offered to integrate sectors*”; if so, (a) what sectors will be integrated, (b) what analysis has been conducted to determine that these sectors can be integrated, (c) why were not the sector reduction targets in the Air Traffic Management Benefits Program achieved, (d) what history “*has proven that it is much more difficult to integrate sectors if those sectors are not all within the one facility*”, and (e) were sectors integrated as a result of the Canberra TCU being consolidated to the Melbourne air traffic services facility and, if no sector integration occurred then, why not.
- (12) Is it the case that Airservices’ Australia’s predecessor, the Civil Aviation Authority, advised in June 1994 that the consolidation of enroute sectors would allow Sydney arrivals south and Melbourne sector 7 to be combined thus saving \$500,000 p.a. in staff costs; if so, (a) did this occur and if not, why not, (b) what comparative analysis has been completed that demonstrates that the consolidation of the Sydney, Adelaide and Perth TCUs will facilitate sector integration whereas the integration of the Canberra TCU and Sydney enroute sectors to Melbourne did not, and (c) if no comparative analysis has been completed, how has Airservices Australia established that TCU consolidation will facilitate sector integration.
- (13) Has Airservices Australia advised him that if TCU consolidation goes ahead, contingency and business continuity arrangements would be available to at least the same level of assurance as those currently existing; if so, has Airservices Australia developed a detailed contingency and business recovery plan for a consolidated TCU structure that satisfies this undertaking; if not, why is Airservices continuing to develop TCU consolidation plans.
- (14) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that if a consolidated Melbourne centre was rendered inoperable through facility failure or some other catastrophic event, then airspace over the southern half of Australia including the residential areas of Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth would still be controlled, if so, what detailed plan exists to ensure that aircraft in this airspace would receive an air traffic control separation service even if the Melbourne centre had been rendered inoperable.
- (15) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that “*the integration of air navigation facilities has for some time been world’s best practice as has been evident in Canada, USA and the UK.*”; if so, what analysis has been conducted to assess: (a) what facilities have been integrated in these countries, (b) what benefits were achieved for the service provider and the aviation industry in each country, (c) what technical infrastructure has been put in place to ensure system reliability, and (d) what relevance do these consolidations have to the Airservices Australia proposal.
- (16) Is it the case that a correctly constituted expert safety panel assessed the risk of having a large number of inexperienced terminal staff after consolidation as “*Category A unacceptable*” and that a Melbourne management review panel changed this initial assessment to “*Category D acceptable*”; if so, (a) did the management review panel composition comply with the Project Safety Plan and (b) what documented evidence was presented to justify any reassessment of risk.
- (17) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that it will address community concerns about the future management of LTOP issues at Sydney by stating that “*to a great extent these concerns can be overcome by a number of initiatives which could be put in place prior to integration and tested for effectiveness*”; if so, (a) what are these initiatives, and (b) how will their effectiveness be assessed.
- (18) Has Airservices Australia advised that it will address community concerns about LTOP management by stating that “*post-integration the Tower supervisor will have the primary say in the runway configuration*”; if so, (a) has this runway mode management procedure been used before; if so, (i) when was it used, (ii) why is it no longer used, and (b) if Airservices Australia plans to use this procedure again, how will it ensure that the same safety concerns that caused it to be abandoned previously will not occur in the future.
- (19) Is TCU consolidation a prerequisite for any of the following: (a) a more efficient air route structure, (b) reduced delays at Sydney, Adelaide or Perth airports, (c) more efficient climb and descent profiles, (d) more effective environmental management (particularly LTOP at Sydney) and (e) safer

terminal area procedures at Sydney, Adelaide or Perth; if so, (i) what analysis has been conducted to quantify the benefits in each of these areas that can only be achieved by consolidating the TCUs to Melbourne, (ii) what analysis has been completed to determine why these improvements cannot be implemented with the TCUs in situ, and (iii) if these improvements are not dependent on TCU consolidation, why does Airservices Australia consider that TCU consolidation will deliver operational benefits for its customers.

- (20) If TCU consolidation goes ahead, what measurable criteria will Airservices Australia use to evaluate its success and what guarantees will Airservices Australia give to stakeholders that these measurable criteria or benchmarks will be achieved.
- (21) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that it has identified cost savings that can only be achieved by consolidating Sydney, Adelaide and Perth TCUs to the Melbourne centre; if so, (a) what detailed analysis has been completed to quantify these projected savings, (b) what detailed analysis has been completed to determine the dollars per tonne reduction in charges that will result, (c) what detailed analysis has been done that identifies the difference in charges that will result from consolidating the three TCUs as compared to leaving them in situ, and (d) what detailed analysis has been completed that identifies why the same reduction in charges cannot be achieved with the TCUs remaining in situ and if no detailed analysis has been completed, why not.
- (22) How much did Airservices Australia budget to spend on investigating the consolidation of Perth, Adelaide and Sydney TCUs to the Melbourne centre.
- (23) How much has been spent to date on this project and will the amount spent on investigating TCU consolidation be included as cost of TCU consolidation if this project proceeds, if not, why not.
- (24) Has Airservices advised that Sydney, Adelaide and Perth terminal controllers located in Melbourne will retain local knowledge through familiarisation visits and ongoing briefings; if so, (a) why did the Melbourne management review of the safety analysis of TCU consolidation reject the loss of local knowledge as a credible risk associated with consolidating the TCUs, and (b) if local knowledge is considered important and familiarisation visits and ongoing briefing will be provided to ensure controllers retain local knowledge, (i) what detailed analysis has been conducted to determine the number of familiarisation days per annum that will be required to retain adequate levels of local knowledge, (ii) what ongoing briefing content will be provided to retain this knowledge and (iii) what budget allowance has been made for local knowledge issues.
- (25) Has Airservices Australia advised him or any organisation that its legal department has expressed no opinion on the broader issue of TCU consolidation, if so, what was Airservices Australia's General Counsel referring to when she advised in relation to an aircraft crash near Lake George that "... *if controllers had local knowledge of the relevant area, they would then have the necessary intimate terrain knowledge*. Such an allegation, if successful, has serious implications for Airservices' ability to implement TCU consolidation and possibly other ATM strategies. Accordingly, we will be attempting to persuade our insurer to seek a favourable settlement of this claim...".

1567 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can he guarantee that if the Adelaide, Sydney and Perth Terminal Control Units (TCUs) are consolidated to Melbourne, the reliability of communications equipment link systems and back-up systems will be at least equal to the present systems and that future long distance third-party provided communication links will provide the same reliability as present Airservices Australia owned and maintained systems.
- (2) What analysis has been conducted to assess the reliability of future systems compared to present ones and, if no analysis has been conducted, is Airservices Australia intending to conduct this analysis; if so, when and if not, why not.
- (3) Is it the case that the Sydney, Adelaide and Perth TCUs currently have a back-up radio system known as the Hard Wired Air Ground Bypass that is an extremely simple, robust system that connects Air Traffic Controllers directly to their radio equipment without the need for third-party provided satellite and terrestrial links, and will the consolidation proposal for back-up radio links be as reliable as this.
- (4) What technical analysis has been conducted to assess the relative reliability of proposed future back up links as compared to present ones and, if no analysis has been conducted, is Airservices Australia intending to conduct this analysis; if so, when and by whom and if not, why not.
- (5) Is it the case that Airservices Australia currently transfers radio data, radar data and voice coordination information between facilities via duplicated satellite links and a back-up terrestrial link; if so, does Airservices Australia plan to use this same system to transfer data between Sydney-based

equipment and Melbourne-based Sydney terminal controllers after TCU consolidation, and are these facilities adequate.

- (6) Is it the case that both satellite intercommunication links and the back-up terrestrial link between the Sydney TCU and the Melbourne centre failed on 7 October 2002; if so, how will Airservices Australia ensure future links will not fail if the Sydney TCU is moved to the Melbourne centre.
- (7) What analysis has been conducted to assess the reliability of proposed intercommunication links and how much will it cost to install additional redundant capability; if no analysis has been conducted, why not.
- (8) Is it the case that Airservices Australia Service Failure Notification 1278 dated 31 August 2002 described a failure which caused "Total loss of air ground communications throughout MCO"; if so, do such failures reduce the ability of Air Traffic Controllers, including future terminal controllers if they are located in Melbourne, to provide a safe separation service.
- (9) What steps will Airservices Australia take to ensure that this situation cannot arise if the Sydney, Adelaide and Perth TCUs are relocated to the Melbourne centre, what analysis has been undertaken to ensure that future systems cannot suffer the same failure and how much will it cost to implement any required system modifications; if no analysis has been undertaken, is Airservices Australia intending to conduct this analysis; if so, when and by whom.
- (10) Does Airservices Australia Service Failure Notification 984 dated 17 July 2001 describe a failure in the primary and back-up radio links between Canberra terminal controllers located in Melbourne and their radio equipment located in Canberra; if so, did this failure cause the Canberra terminal controllers to lose contact with aircraft under their control.
- (11) Is it the case that this failure reduced the ability of Canberra terminal controllers to provide a safe separation service and does Airservices Australia consider that such failures would reduce the ability of future terminal controllers, if they are located in Melbourne, to provide a safe separation service; if not, why not.
- (12) What analysis has been undertaken to ensure that future systems cannot suffer the same failure and how much will it cost to implement any required system modifications; if no analysis has been undertaken, is Airservices Australia intending to conduct this analysis; if so, when and by whom.
- (13) What steps will Airservices Australia take to ensure that Sydney, Adelaide and Perth terminal controllers will not lose contact with aircraft under their control if they are relocated to the Melbourne centre.

1568 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) What actions, decisions and/or representations have been taken by his Department or any other Commonwealth Department as a result of the decision to award Major Project Facilitation status to the Melbourne to Gladstone rail link project.
- (2) What cost has been incurred by the Government in relation to the project having this status and for what specifically were these costs incurred.
- (3) What are the criteria for awarding this status to a project and do they include whether the project (a) involves over \$50 million of expenditure and (b) must be commercially viable.
- (4) On what information, study or report did the Government determine that this project is commercially viable and was that assessment of viability for the project from Melbourne through to Gladstone or some other destination and if so, what was that destination.
- (5) Did the assessment made by his Department that the project is commercially viable include financial or any other assistance available from any government, Commonwealth or State; if so, what assistance was included from which government/s.
- (5) Which section of his Department assessed the commercial viability of the project and was either Treasury or the Department of Finance and Administration involved in that assessment; if not, why not.

1569 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) What has been the cost of the APEC project performed under the direction of his Department to assess the outlook of gasoline supply stability in Australia to date.
- (2) Have any findings been presented to government and what is the expected completion date of the project.
- (2) Were scenarios involving the use of MTBE in the APEC region included in the scope of the study.

- (3) Has his Department done any forward estimates on the demand for gasoline in Australia; if so, what are they.
- (4) Has his Department done any assessment of gasoline refinery capacity in Australia and the future; if so, what are they.
- (5) Is it the case that domestic refineries on current projections will be unable to keep pace with demand, thereby increasing our dependence on imports.
- (6) Does his Department accept that given the specifications on the future use of MTBE in production, importation of gasoline from the APEC region would be unsuitable for Australia and what cost implications would that have for domestic consumption.
- (7) Will the findings of the APEC study be released for public consideration; if so, when and if not, why not.

1570 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How many Medicare shopfronts have been closed or amalgamated during (a) 1999–2000, (b) 2000–2001, (c) 2001–2002, and (d) 2002–2003.
- (2) How many staff reductions occurred due to closures or amalgamation of Medicare offices during (a) 1999–2000, (b) 2000–2001, (c) 2001–2002, and (d) 2002–2003.
- (3) Is it the case that some clients are experiencing waiting periods of more than 30 minutes when attempting to access the Medicare enquiry line, if so, why.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that some Medicare clients, particularly those with sight impairments, experience difficulty locating refurbished or relocated Medicare offices due to the minimised and vertical signage.
- (5) Has there been a decline in the number of claims lodged in person at refurbished or relocated Medicare shopfronts; if so, of what magnitude.
- (6) Has there been a rise in the number of complaints from clients experiencing difficulty in accessing these same locations; if so, of what magnitude.
- (7) How many complaints were registered by clients experiencing difficulty accessing Medicare offices as a result of (a) distance, (b) location, and (c) restricted opening hours during (i) 1999–2000, (ii) 2000–2001, (iii) 2001–2002, and (iv) 2002–2003.

1571 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—How many extraordinary general meetings have been called in each of the last five years by shareholders of public companies compared to those initiated by the boards of public companies.

1572 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of reports that Mr Clarrie Stevens, QC, did not lodge an income tax return for twenty years whilst practising as a barrister between 1976 and 1996; if not, why not.
- (2) Is it the case that Mr Stevens has acted for the Taxation Commissioner; if so, on how many occasions has he been retained by the Taxation Commissioner and for what periods of time.
- (3) What checks does the Taxation Commissioner undertake before retaining the services of a member of the legal profession.
- (4) Is he able to say whether the Taxation Commissioner considered the question of whether Mr Stevens is of good fame and character before retaining his services; if so, what were those considerations and when was this question considered, if not, why not.
- (5) Is there a procedure whereby the Commissioner of Taxation determines the good fame and character of a legal practitioner retained for the purposes of assisting/representing him in litigation, policy advice, and/or legal work; if so, what is that procedure, if not, why not.
- (6) Are there criteria by which the Taxation Commissioner appoints, retains, employs or otherwise engages legal practitioners on a fee-for-service basis; if not, why not.

1573 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What are the (a) names, (b) nationalities and (c) principal qualifications of the five Members of the International Court of Justice who were elected on 21 October 2002 for a term of nine years beginning on 6 February 2002.
- (2) By and from which states were nominations made for the five vacancies.

1574 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) On 25 March 2002 did he and the Attorney General state that there are ongoing negotiations on the permanent maritime boundaries between Australia and New Zealand.
- (2) When did the negotiations commence and when are they expected to conclude.

6 March 2003

1575 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—What are the (a) names, (b) addresses and (c) hours of operation of organisations that are part of the Job Network in the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1576 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Attorney-General—On the most recent data, what is the incidence of reported crime by type in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1577 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many Newstart Allowance recipients reside in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1578 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many Family Payment recipients who receive more than the minimum payment reside in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1579 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many disability support pension recipients reside in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1580 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many age pension recipients reside in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1581 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On the most recent data, how many parenting payment single recipients reside in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1582 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—On most recent data, how many Child Support Agency clients reside in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1583 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—On the most recent data, how many youth allowance recipients reside in (a) Western Australia and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1584 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—On the most recent data, what sum in child care assistance per child per annum was allocated to (a) family, (b) private long and (c) community long day care in (i) Australia, (ii) Western Australia and (iii) the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1585 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit in the electoral division of Stirling received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 6018, (ii) 6019, (iii) 6020, (iv) 6021, (v) 6022, (vi) 6029, (vii) 6060, (viii) 6061 and (ix) 6062.

1586 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to your answer to question No. 155 (*Hansard*, 11 February 2003, page 647) is he able to say whether the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) keeps records that are easily accessible on computer about the matters it deals with.
- (2) Does the ATO prepare management reports on the performance of its divisions that deal with the timeframe of cases that it deals with; if so, would these management reports contain information that would assist in easily answering question No. 155; if not, what type of records are generated to measure its internal performance.

- (3) Why the many parts of question No. 155, which can be answered “yes” or “no”, would require a significant diversion of resources to collate the information.
- (4) Will he provide the House with an indication of the level of resources or cost that would be required to answer question No. 155.
- (5) Can he explain why it took over 12 months to state that he was not prepared to answer the specifics in question No. 155.

1587 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to paragraph (3) of your reply to question No. 43 (*Hansard*, 11 February 2003, page 647) what are the external sources from which he gathered the information that 69.2% of barristers declared a taxable income in excess of \$60,000 for the financial year 2000-01.
- (2) Is it the case that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), on the basis of its own records, cannot provide information on the number and percentage of self-employed barristers who paid the top marginal rate of income tax for the financial year 2000-01; if so, why.
- (3) On the basis of the ATOs internal records in relation to those taxpayers who describe their occupation to the Taxation Commissioner as a self-employed barrister, what is the number and percentage of those self-employed barristers who paid the top marginal rate of income tax for the financial year 2000-01.
- (4) On the basis of the ATOs internal records in relation to those taxpayers who describe their occupation to the Taxation Commissioner as a solicitor or lawyer, what is the number and percentage of those self-employed solicitors or lawyers who paid the top marginal rate of income tax for the financial year 2000-01.

1588 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—How many (a) barristers, and (b) solicitors or lawyers, registered with any Bar Association or Law Society, do not have a tax file number.

1589 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What is the total number of taxpayers recorded by the Australian Tax Office under the industry code No. 78410 it uses to identify taxpayers engaged in the following legal services occupations: advocates, barristers, conveyancing services, legal aid services, notaries and solicitors.

1590 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What was the amount of taxpayer-debt carried by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) immediately before the introduction of the New Taxation System.
- (2) What is the current amount of taxpayer-debt carried by the ATO.

1591 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of reports that Mr Bill Davison, SC, has been made bankrupt twice in 1992 and 1999; if not, why not.
- (2) Can he confirm reports that Mr Davison has paid no tax for 4 years despite earning substantial income; if not, why not.
- (3) Can he confirm reports that Mr Davison owes approximately \$2 million of unpaid taxes; if not, why not.
- (4) Is he aware that Mr Davison claims that he has no assets and that his wife owns the million dollar home that they live in and that they both drive Mercedes Benz motor vehicles.
- (5) What is the Taxation Commissioner doing to ensure that Mr Davison pays his debts to the Australian Taxation Office.
- (6) Have Mr Davison’s services ever been retained by the Commonwealth; if so, on how many occasions, for what periods of time and for what purposes.

1592 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of reports that Mr Timothy Wardell, a barrister, went bankrupt in 2000 owing \$1 million to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO); if not, why not.
- (2) Has he been advised that Mr Wardell told the Federal Court that he had no assets even though court documents proved that he had an income of \$350,000 per annum, drove a BMW motor vehicle and lived in Sydney near the waterfront; if not, why not.
- (3) What has the Taxation Commissioner done to ensure that Mr Wardell pays his debts to the ATO.
- (4) Have Mr Wardell’s services ever been retained by the Commonwealth; if so, on how many occasions, for what periods of time and for what purposes.

1593 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of the case of Mr Wayne Baffsky, a barrister practising criminal law, who did not lodge income tax returns during 1998 or 1999 and was subsequently bankrupted by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) in February 2000 owing \$442,000.
- (2) Is he aware that Mr Baffsky continues to drive a \$70,000 red Mustang motor-vehicle.
- (3) What is the total amount of tax to date that the ATO has forgone in relation to the case of Mr Baffsky.
- (4) Have Mr Baffsky's services ever been retained by the Commonwealth; if so, on how many occasions, for what periods of time and for what purposes.

1594 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—How many public examinations of members of the legal profession, who have employed bankruptcy or family law to avoid paying tax, have occurred in the Federal Court Registry since 16 August 2000.

1596 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—In accordance with the Australian Taxation Office's Seminar Program, as reported on page 128 of the Commissioner of Taxation Annual Report 2001-02, has the Taxation Commissioner conducted any seminars to promote compliance from the barristers who use bankruptcy and family law to avoid paying tax; if so, what are the details, if not, why not.

1597 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) In respect to the Australian Taxation Office's "ATOconcern" confidential service, as reported on page 134 of the Commissioner of Taxation Annual Report 2001-02, have any members of staff of the ATO voiced their concerns or complained about the roting of the taxation system by members of the legal profession.
- (2) What is the total number of complaints about members of the legal profession made by staff to this service since the service was instituted in August 1998.

1598 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—What action is he taking to amend laws to prevent Mr Bill Davison, SC, from using bankruptcy and family law on a third occasion to put his assets out of reach of the Taxation Commissioner and thereby avoid paying tax.

1599 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of reports that Mr Timothy Wardell, a barrister, went bankrupt in 2000 owing \$1 million to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO); if not, why not.
- (2) With regard to his News Release of 25 July 2001 titled *Getting tough on lawyers who avoid tax*, what changes to the law has he initiated to ensure that Mr Wardell cannot again use bankruptcy or family law to avoid paying income tax.

1600 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of reports that Mr Wayne Baffsky, a barrister practising criminal law, went bankrupt in 2000 owing \$442,000 to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO); if not, why not.
- (2) Concerning his News Release of 28 February 2001 titled *Attorneys-General to consider compulsory reporting of bankruptcy for barristers*, has he reported Mr Baffsky's bankruptcy to the New South Wales Bar Association; if so, when, if not, why not.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1601 - 1602)— (1) In respect to the Commissioner of Taxation's Annual Report 2000-01 where it was reported on page 64 that the Attorney-General and the Assistant Treasurer had established a bankruptcy task force to determine any changes needed to bankruptcy, taxation or other laws to ensure that members of the legal profession may not use bankruptcy as a means of avoiding their tax obligations; what recommendations has the taskforce made to date.

- (2) Have any recommendations been implemented; if so, what are the details, if not, why not.

1601 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1602 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

1603 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) On 17 March 1975 did Australia substitute a new form of acceptance of the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice.
- (2) On 22 March 2002 did Australia amend its acceptance.
- (3) Why were the amendments made.
- (4) Will he bring up to date the information he gave in answer to paragraph 4 of question No. 2744 (*Hansard*, 9 August 2001, page 29670).

1604 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to his Press Release of 19 December 2002 announcing the formation of the Special Operations Command, will the full component of 310 highly trained soldiers referred to only be provided in 2006.
- (2) As soldiers are selected for the Special Operations Command, will the resultant vacancies be back filled or will the unit be left hollow.
- (3) How many positions will be involved in the Special Combat Service Team and when will it be fully operational.
- (4) In relation to the Special Operations Command; for each rank, how many (a) existing positions and (b) new positions will be involved and over what time period will they be filled.
- (5) What additional equipment is required to have the Special Operations Command mature and fully functional and what is the cost.
- (6) As a result of his announcement, what additional funds have been provided to the Australian Defence Force for Special Operations Command.

1605 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to his Press Release of 3 December 2002 regarding new Regulations particularly that “*all Reservists have been moved to one of the new categories*”; how many Reservists, by single Service, have been transferred to the new categories: (a) High Readiness Active Reserve, (b) High Readiness Specialist Reserve, (c) Specialist Reserve, (d) Active Reserve, (e) Standby Reserve, and (f) other categories as determined by the respective Service Chief.
- (2) How was each reservist advised of the new category that they were transferred to, and when.

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1606 - 1607)— (1) Is he aware of reports, including those on *Foreign Correspondent* on ABC TV on 4 March 2003, that a Saudi Arabian charity was responsible for funding the terrorist attacks in Bali in October 2002.

- (2) Has he raised the question of funding of Jemaah Islamiah (JI) and the Bali attacks with the Saudi or Indonesian government; if so, what was the result of those representations.
- (3) Is he aware of any money from individuals, corporations or charities in Australia going to the Al-Haramain charity in Saudi Arabia, which is suspected of funding terrorism; if so (a) does the group have any representatives or offices in Australia, and (b) does the group have any connection with any organisations or individuals in Australia.
- (4) Has the Minister heard of the World Assembly of Moslem Youth, which is also suspected of funding terrorism; if so, (a) does the Assembly have any representatives or offices in Australia, and (b) does the Assembly have any connection with any organisations or individuals in Australia.
- (5) Is he aware of any money from individuals, corporations or charities in Australia going to the Assembly

1606 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer.

1607 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

18 March 2003

*1608 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Is he aware of the attempts by the former employees of the company, Electruck in Sydney to obtain their entitlements from its receiver, KPMG, which was appointed on 26 February 2001.
- (2) Is it the case that the receiver is now able to pay the entitlements.
- (3) Does he support the efforts of the officials of the AMWU to obtain payment of the workers' entitlements; if not, why not.
- (4) Will he write to KPMG on behalf of the workers; if not, why not.
- (5) Will the Federal Safety Net Arrangements cover the Electruck workers' entitlements; if not, why not.
- (6) What other action may the workers take to recover their entitlements.

*1609 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Over what period was the drug iophendylate, otherwise know as Pantopaque or Myodil, licensed for use in Australia
- (2) When was the licence withdrawn or ceased and for what reason.

- (3) Does Myodil contain: (i) Benzene, (ii) Hydrochloric Acid, (iii) Sulphuric Acid, (iv) Potassium Permanganate and (v) 30% Iodine.
- (4) Is it the case that (a) Benzene is regarded as a leading carcinogenic, (b) Potassium Permanganate can kill if digested, and (c) incorrect use of Iodine can lead to Parkinson's disease.
- (5) Have the patients who were given Myodil been identified; if not, why not.
- (6) Have those same patients been advised by the Minister's department, or any other Commonwealth agency, about the potentially adverse effects of Myodil; if not why not.
- (7) How many patients who were prescribed iophendylate subsequently developed Adhesive Arachnoiditis.
- (8) Is there a known cure or treatment for Adhesive Arachnoiditis.
- (7) Have any studies been undertaken in Australia into the number of Adhesive Arachnoiditis sufferers; if so, what are the details.
- (8) Has the Minister's Department, or any other Commonwealth agency, sponsored research into the after effects of the use of Myodil.
- (9) Has the Minister's Department, or any other Commonwealth Agency, provided financial support for Adhesive Arachnoiditis support groups.

*1610 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many applications for funding under the Regional Solutions Program in the electorate of Throsby have (a) been submitted and (b) are awaiting determination.
- (2) Who has applied under the Regional Solutions Program in the electorate of Throsby and what are the details of each application.
- (3) What is the sum of funds (a) applied for, and (b) granted under the Regional Solutions Program in the electoral divisions of: (i) Throsby, (ii) Hume, (iii) Macarthur, (iv) Cunningham and (v) Gilmore.
- (4) How many applications under the Regional Solutions Program have been (a) approved and (b) rejected in the electoral divisions of: (i) Throsby (ii) Hume, (iii) Macarthur, (iv) Cunningham and (v) Gilmore.
- (5) Is he aware of the application by the Shellharbour City Council for funding under the Regional Solutions Program for reconstruction of the main runway at Illawarra Regional Airport.
- (6) Is he aware that the Shellharbour City Council application was rejected because "the responsibility for regional airports rests with local government".
- (7) Does he agree with the determination of the Department of Transport and Regional Services and therefore the consequence that applications of the type lodged by the Shellharbour City Council are not eligible for funding under the Regional Solutions Program; if so, why; if not, why not.
- (8) Is he aware that a similar project to that proposed by the Shellharbour City Council was proposed by the Temora Shire Council, that that project was approved by the Department of Transport and Regional Services and that the Temora Shire Council received \$550,000 for a significant upgrade of its airport.
- (9) Why has the Shellharbour City Council application for funding under the Regional Solutions Program been rejected and the Temora Shire Council application been accepted.
- (10) Is he aware that the Shellharbour City Council asked for a review of its application for Regional Solutions Program funding in a letter dated 20 November 2002 on the basis that the Department's reason for its decision is inconsistent with its decision to approve the Temora Shire Council's project.
- (11) Why has the Department not replied to the Shellharbour City Council's letter dated 20 November 2002 and what will he do to rectify the oversight.
- (12) Will he intervene on behalf of the Shellharbour City Council to demand a review of the decision to reject its application; if not, why not.

*1611 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Does the Vehicle Safety Standards Branch of his Department have a client service charter; if so, what is it and what penalties, action or processes apply, or are taken, if a member of the public alleges or proves that the client service charter has been breached with respect to their treatment by a Departmental officer.
- (2) What action is taken by him or his office when a member of the public alleges or proves to him that his Department's client service charter has been breached by an officer and who is responsible if that action is not taken.

- (3) What action is taken by the Secretary of the Department of Transport and Regional Services when a member of the public alleges and proves to him that the Department's client service charter has been breached by an officer and who is responsible if that action is not taken.
- (4) Has any action been taken by him, his office or the Secretary of the Department in relation to allegations by Mr Colin G. Young that certain officers have seriously breached the client service charter; if not, why not.
- (5) Did an officer of the Department of Transport and Regional Services send a copy of a highly-confidential letter addressed to Mr Young to any individual, company or organisation who had no reason to know the contents of the letter; if so (a) who, (b) why and (c) did that officer have Mr Young's permission to do so; if not, why not.
- (6) Further to paragraph 5, if a letter was sent, on whose behalf and/or on whose authority did that officer take that action, and why.
- (7) In respect to information posted on the Department of Transport and Regional Services' Road Vehicle Certification Scheme website in relation to vehicle approval issues: can that information (a) be taken as being true and correct; if not, why not, (b) what is the purpose of having that vital information displayed when it is used in relation to registering motor vehicles, and (c) what is the status of that information and have readers and users of that information always been so advised; if not, why not.
- (8) Do all Honda CR-V and Nissan X-trail motor vehicles comply with all Australian Design Rules relating to vehicle lighting; if not, why not.
- (9) Will all full-volume ADR 73/00-complianced vehicles that do not have a pictogram that is in precise accordance with that specified in the ADR be recalled and rectified; if not, why not.
- (10) Can a Compliance Plate Approval held by a company at the time it is wound up, put into liquidation or ceases to trade, be transferred to another newly-formed company formed by the proprietor/director of the former company; has he and the Administrator consistently refused to answer this simple yes/no question; if so, why.
- (11) What avenues of redress or appeal are available to members of the public with a grievance about their treatment by, or decisions taken, by officers in the Vehicle Standards Section of the Department of Transport and Regional Services.
- (12) Did an officer of the Department of Transport and Regional Services send, via fax, an "advance copy" of a registered mail letter from the Administrator addressed to Mr Young, to any individual, company or organisation, who had no reason to know the contents of the letter, and if so (a) who, (b) why and (c) did that officer have the permission of Mr Young to do so; if not, why not.
- (13) Did an officer of the Department of Transport and Regional Services ask Mr Young's office for Mr Young's home address; if so, (a) what legal and ethical reason in relation to the officer's duties with the Department did the officer have for doing so, and (b) why was this officer permitted to remain involved with matters concerning Mr Young and his colleagues and clients, when extremely grave complaints, involving breaches of privacy and confidentiality, lying and defamation, had been laid against the officer.
- (14) What avenues of redress or appeal are available to members of the public with a grievance about serious breaches of the Australian Public Service and Senior Executive Service "Values" and "Code of Conduct" by officers in the Vehicle Standards Section of the Department of Transport and Regional Services and is he aware of complaints of heinous breaches by officers, including the Administrator; if so, what action has he taken to address these matters.
- (15) Has he received letters from Mr Young regarding allegations of serious breaches by officers of his Department; if so, (a) on what date(s) were they received, (b) what date(s) did he respond and (c) if he has not responded, why not.
- (16) Did the Administrator receive a notification of a suspected serious ADR safety violation involving a power-window exerting too much force in respect to a large-selling fully-complianced motor vehicle; if so, what action was taken and, if no action was taken, why not.
- (17) Can he confirm that the Vehicle Standards Administrator has consistently refused to answer a number of serious items raised by Mr Young; if so, when did he become aware of this and when will he ensure that all matters raised are responded to.
- (18) Can he confirm that the Vehicle Standards Administrator, when investigating complaints that an officer had publicly stated that Mr Young and four of his colleagues/clients "had a conspiracy to illegally import and register motor vehicles", had (a) produced an important document that was

alleged to be “obviously fraudulent” when in fact it was printed from the Vehicle Safety Standards internet site, (b) asked only the officer for his comments and (c) did not ask any of the five aggrieved parties for their comments or to see the statutory declarations that had been prepared.

- (19) Can he confirm that the Administrator advised him and/or his office, either directly or indirectly, that the above complaints had been investigated and found to be unsubstantiated.
- (20) Did he or his office ensure that this investigation by the Administrator was thorough, professional, transparent and in accordance with all the applicable Values, Codes of Conduct, Charters and principles of natural-justice; if not, why not and what action will he now take as a consequence.
- (21) Can he confirm that Compliance Plate Approval application 29674 was received on 6 September 2002; if so, (a) what action has been taken to date to process it, (b) if no action has been taken, is this consistent with the standard timeframes for handling such applications: if not, what is the reason for the delay.
- (22) Does the law provide that while certain vehicles do not have to comply with certain ADR's (because of their date of manufacture), they nevertheless must comply with certain aspects of those ADR's; if so, did the Administrator refuse to provide Mr Young with details of the law; if the law does not so provide, why does the Vehicle Standards Section insist that those vehicles do have to comply.
- (23) How many complaints and/or grievances have been made against the Vehicle Standards Section in each of the past five years and how much has it cost to attend to them.
- (24) How many Freedom of Information requests have been lodged for information held by the Vehicle Standards Section in each of the last five years and how much has it cost to process them.
- (25) How many Administrative Appeals Tribunal appeals have been lodged against decisions or actions of the Vehicle Standards Section in each of the past five years, what has been the outcome of each appeal and what has been the cost to the Department, or any other Commonwealth Department, of each appeal.

*1612 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Would he define precisely the roles of the Governor-General and Prime Minister in relation to membership of, and authority over, the Australian Defence Forces.
- (2) In respect to the decision of the Prime Minister made at a meeting of the National Security Council (NSC) on or about 10 January 2003 to commit an advance deployment of Australian Defence Forces to the Persian Gulf; (a) was the Governor-General present at this meeting; and (b) what prior reference was made by the Prime Minister to the Governor-General in making the decision to advance deploy Australian service men and women.
- (3) What was the stated purpose of the advance deployment and has that purpose changed since the decision was made.
- (4) In reference to the article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 11-12 January 2003 that reported that the advance deployment would likely take part in sabotage, reconnaissance and incursion; is the quote attributed to the Prime Minister in this article accurate as reported; if not, what are the inaccuracies in the newspaper report and what did the Prime Minister actually say to the press on that occasion.

*1613 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) How many ministerial statements have been made in the years 1996 to 2003.
- (2) In respect of each ministerial statement: (a) what was the name and portfolio of the Minister who made it, (b) on what date was it made and (c) was it published.
- (3) In respect to each ministerial statement that was published; (a) how many copies were printed, (b) what was the cost of publication and (c) what was the method of distribution of the printed material.

*1614 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many Tax File Numbers (TFN) have been issued by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
- (2) How many TFNs have been: (a) associated with the lodgement of a tax return in the last 12 months, (b) not associated with the submission of a tax return in the last 12 months and (c) found by the ATO to be inactive or no longer operational.
- (3) What are the criteria for determining the continuing use or functionality of a TFN.
- (4) Has the ATO found cases of the issue of multiple TFNs to any individual; if so, (a) is there any legitimate reason for an individual to be issued with multiple TFNs, (b) how many instances of multiple TFN issues have been found, and (c) what is the highest number of TFNs that have been issued to an individual.

- (5) Does the issue of multiple TFNs provide opportunities to attempt the commission of taxation fraud.
- (6) Does the ATO undertake any data matching to reduce the instances of multiple issue of TFNs.
- (7) What steps has the ATO taken to eliminate or reduce instances of multiple TFN issue.

*1615 **MS BURKE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many Australian Business Numbers (ABN) have been issued by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
- (2) How many ABNs have been: (a) associated with the lodgement of a GST return in the last 12 months, (b) not associated with the submission of a GST return in the last 12 months and (c) found by the ATO to be inactive or no longer operational.
- (3) What are the criteria for determining the continuing use or functionality of an ABN.
- (4) Has the ATO found cases of the issue of multiple ABNs to any registered entity; if so, (a) is there any legitimate reason for any entity being issued with multiple ABNs, (b) how many instances of multiple ABN issues have been found, and (c) what is the highest number of ABNs that have been issued to a single entity.
- (5) Does the issue of multiple ABNs provide opportunities to attempt the commission of taxation fraud.
- (6) Does the ATO undertake any data matching to reduce the instances of multiple issue of ABNs.
- (7) What steps has the ATO taken to eliminate or reduce instances of multiple ABN issue.

*1616 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) What consideration has the Government given to participation in the 2005 World Exposition in Aichi, Japan.
- (2) When does he anticipate a decision concerning Australia's participation to be made.
- (3) What is the likely nature of any Australian participation.

*1617 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What safety restrictions apply to the number of hours that: (a) pilots, and (b) air crew are able to work on domestic commercial flights in Australia.

*1618 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware that Mr Roger de Robilliard, a barrister, appeared before the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 5 March 2003 for not filing a tax return since 1997.
- (2) On how many occasions since 1997 has the Australian Taxation Office written to Mr Robilliard demanding that he lodge a tax return.

*1619 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware that Mr Roger de Robilliard, a barrister, appeared before the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 5 March 2003 for not filing a tax return since 1997.
- (2) What action has he taken to ensure all barristers lodge their tax returns on time.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. *1620 - *1637)—Have any of the following barristers: Mr John Cummins, QC, Mr Stephen Archer, SC, Mr Clarrie Stevens, QC, Mr Bill Davison, SC, Mr Timothy Wardell, Mr Wayne Baffsky, Mr Robert Somosi or Mr Roger de Robilliard, all of whom have appeared before the Courts in relation to very serious breaches of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*, ever been retained by their Departments or Agencies in their portfolio; if so, (a) on how many occasions (b) for what periods of time and (c) for what purposes.

*1620 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister.

*1621 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

*1622 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer.

*1623 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

*1624 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

*1625 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

*1626 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*1627 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

*1628 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

*1629 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

- *1630 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- *1631 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- *1632 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- *1633 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- *1634 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- *1635 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- *1636 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- *1637 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- *1638 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What percentage of all taxpayers paid the top marginal rate of income tax during each of the financial years ended 30 June 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.
- *1639 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Further to his reply to question No. 1203 (*Hansard*, 13 February 2003, page 908), in what way is the Government giving further consideration to the issues contained in parts 5 to 8 of that question.
 - (2) What matters are specifically being considered.
 - (3) Has he received advice from the Commissioner of Taxation on these issues; if so, what was that advice.
- *1640 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What investigations are currently being undertaken in the Australian Taxation Office with respect to (a) breaches of the Income Tax Assessment Act by barristers with residential addresses or normal places of business located in the State of Queensland and (b) with respect to use of the following legal instruments for the express or substantive intention of avoiding or evading taxation: (i) Family Trusts in equity law, (ii) Property Orders under the Family Law Act, (iii) Debtors' petitions under the Bankruptcy Act, (iv) any other legal instrument, lawful in itself, yet with the intention of being used to put the assets of the barrister out of the reach of their sole or principal creditor, the Commissioner of Taxation; if there are no investigations into these issues, why not.
- *1641 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What percentage of those practitioners in the following Business Industry Codes pay the top marginal rate of income tax: (a) 86110 which includes: eye hospitals, hospital operation – except psychiatric, dental or veterinary hospitals, maternity hospital operation, obstetric hospital operation, psychiatric hospital, convalescent homes, hospice operation, and nursing home operation, (b) 86210 which includes: clinic – medical practice, general practice, flying doctor service, general practitioner – medical, and medical service, (c) 86221 – anaesthetist, (d) 86222 – consultant physician, (e) 86223 – dermatologist, (f) 86224 – gynaecologist, (g) 86225 – pathologist, (h) 86226 – psychiatrist, (i) 86227 which includes: radiologist and radiologist services, (j) 86228 which includes: allergist, medical service – specialist, neurologist, ophthalmologist, otorhinolaryngologist, paediatrician, plastic surgeon, rheumatologist, specialist medical practitioner, surgeon – medical, thoracic specialist and urologist, (k) 86230 which includes: clinic – dental, dental hospital operation, dental surgeon, endodontist, oral pathologist, orthodontist, paedodontist, periodontist and prosthodontist, (l) 86320 which includes: contact lenses dispensing, eye testing – optometrist, optical dispensing, optician, orthoptist and spectacles dispensing, (m) 78420 which includes: accountant, accounting service, auditing service, bookkeeping service and tax agent and (n) all business activities listed under code 86392.
- *1642 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Did the Minister read an article written by Dr John Deeble, the chief planner for Medicare in the 1980s, titled “Not ailing, but in need of a check up” in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 10 March 2003.
 - (2) Which views expressed by Dr Deeble does the Minister accept and why.
 - (3) Which views expressed by Dr Deeble does the Minister not accept and why.
 - (4) What is the Government doing to ensure that all Australians have access to bulk-billing, irrespective of their place of abode.
 - (5) Will the Government grant doctors a minimum increase of \$5 in the bulk-billing fee; if so, when; if not, why not.
- *1643 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) With respect to cockpit security on commercial aircraft, has he mandated the installation of cockpit security systems in all commercial aircraft; if not, why not; if so, what has been mandated and does it apply to domestic and international operations.

- (2) Has the International Civil Aviation Organisation provided any direction or directive on the provision on such systems; if so, what.
- (3) What is the timeframe for action by the Australian Government on this issue.
- (4) Is he aware of the Australian made AACE Flightsafe system; if so, has he assessed its effectiveness relative to other systems produced overseas; if not, why not.

*1644 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Has the Australian Greenhouse Office completed, or arranged to complete, a research paper related to a cost benefit analysis for exempting employer-provided public transport from fringe benefits taxation that it was commissioned to undertake in 2002; if not, why not and when will it be completed.
- (2) In respect to this cost benefit analysis, (a) who is undertaking this work on behalf of the Department, (b) what is the cost of completing the work and (c) is funding for the work available; if so, from which program is it funded.
- (3) If the work is completed, (a) when will it be publicly released, (b) why has it not been released to date and (c) if it is not intended to be released, why.
- (4) Has his Department, or any other Department, completed, or arranged to complete, any other reports or research relating to policy measures that will reduce transport emissions through a reduction in car dependency; if so, (a) what are they, (b) are they publicly available and (c) if they are not publicly available, why.

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. *1645 - *1646)— (1) Is he able to say whether the Saudi based charity the Islamic International Relief Organisation (IIRO) has, as its South East Asia regional director, Jamal Mohamed Khalifa, who is 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 Al Qaeda/Jemaah Islamiah (JI), including: Khalifa Trading Industries, ET Dizon Travel, Pyramid Trading, 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.

*1645 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*1646 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

*1647 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is it the case that the Telstra subsidiary, Sensis, replaced retrenched Sensis staff with outsourced staff from Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd, a joint venture between Telstra and Excell Asia Pacific Pty Ltd; if so, how many Sensis staff were retrenched and how many Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd staff were rehired on an outsourced basis.
- (2) What payments have been made by Sensis to Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd for the provision of services, and what is the nature of those services.
- (3) How much money, if any, has Sensis contracted, or budgeted, to provide to Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd in future.
- (4) Has the Sensis board member and Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd board member, Mr Andrew Day, benefited financially from the provision of any services to Sensis by Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd; if so, what was the full extent of the benefit.
- (5) Was there a tender process in regard to the provision of services to Sensis by Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd; if so, what was that process.
- (6) What is the nature and purpose of Telstra's investment in Stellar Call Centres Pty Ltd.

- *1648 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What strategy does the Government have in place to address issues such as homelessness induced by funding cuts under the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement.
 - (2) How many people are homeless in (a) Australia and (b) each State and Territory.
 - (3) How many people are homeless in each federal electoral division and, in particular, the electoral divisions of Oxley and Blair.
- *1649 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Is the Government planning to continue program funding under the Men and Family Relationship Initiative within the context of the Partnerships Against Domestic Violence Strategy beyond June 2003; if not, what will replace this program.

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 Cobb, Mr Danby, Mrs Draper, Mr Haase, Ms Hoare, Dr Lawrence, Mr Lloyd, Mr Snowdon, Mr Tollner.

Current inquiry:

Capacity building in indigenous communities.

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

Current inquiry:

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

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

Current inquiry:

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

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

Current inquiry:

Structure of Telstra.

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.

Operation of sessional order 344.

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.

Current inquiry:

Review of agency security arrangements.

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: Mrs Hull, 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 Conroy, Senator Lundy, Senator Murray, Senator Scullion, Senator Watson.

Current inquiries:

Draft Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill.

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*), Mr Causley, Ms Ellis, Mr Johnson, Mr Neville, Mr Snowdon, Mr C. P. Thompson, Senator Crossin, Senator Hogg, Senator Lundy, Senator Scullion, Senator Stott Despoja.

Current inquiries:

Pay parking in the Parliamentary zone

Review of the annual reports of the Department of Transport and Regional Services 2001-2002 and the Department of the Environment and Heritage 2001-02 (Australia's external territories).

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*).