

2002-2003

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 87

TUESDAY, 13 MAY 2003

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

- 1 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FURTHER BORDER PROTECTION MEASURES) BILL 2002 [NO. 2]** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Melham*).
- 2 **SUPERANNUATION INDUSTRY (SUPERVISION) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Trade*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 December 2002—Mr Snowden*).
- 3 **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 Snowden*).
- 4 **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*).
- 5 **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*).
- 6 **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*).
- 7 **MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 19 September 2002—Mr Albanese*).
- 8 **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*).
- 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 **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*).
- 11 **DESIGNS BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 12 **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*).
- 13 **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*).

\* 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.

- 14 **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*).
- 15 **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*).
- 16 **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*).
- 17 **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*).
- 18 **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*).
- 19 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (AWARD SIMPLIFICATION) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 November 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 20 **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*).
- 21 **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*).
- 22 **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*).
- 23 **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*).
- 24 **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*).
- 25 **FAMILY LAW AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 February 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 26 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (EMERGENCY SERVICES) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 March 2003—Mr Edwards*).
- 27 **MARITIME LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 2003—Mr McClelland*).
- 28 **DEFENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 29 **NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT (PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE LEVIES) BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 30 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE (ACAC REVIEW LEVY) BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 31 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE (COLLAPSED ORGANIZATION LEVY) BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 32 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE (COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION LEVY) BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 33 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE (REINSURANCE TRUST FUND LEVY) BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Cox*).

- \*34 **AVIATION TRANSPORT SECURITY BILL 2003** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Rudd*).
- \*35 **AVIATION TRANSPORT SECURITY (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Rudd*).
- \*36 **CIVIL AVIATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Rudd*).
- \*37 **CIVIL AVIATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Science*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Rudd*).
- \*38 **PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP (OIL) LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2003** (*Minister for the Environment and Heritage*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Rudd*).
- \*39 **EXPORT CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Snowdon*).
- \*40 **NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2003** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Snowdon*).
- \*41 **NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2003** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Snowdon*).
- \*42 **AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION LEGISLATION BILL 2003** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Sidebottom*).
- \*43 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 5) 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Sidebottom*).
- \*44 **TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT (PERSONAL INJURIES AND DEATH) BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Sidebottom*).
- \*45 **TRADE PRACTICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Sidebottom*).
- 46 **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”.
- 47 **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*).
- 48 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (FAIR TERMINATION) BILL 2002**: Consideration of Senate’s amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).

- 49 **RENEWABLE ENERGY (ELECTRICITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2002:** Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).
- \*50 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—REVIEW OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TRADE AND DEFENCE ANNUAL REPORTS 2000-2001—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- \*51 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—AUSTRALIA'S ROLE IN UNITED NATIONS REFORM—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- \*52 **EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—SHARED ENDEAVOURS—AN INQUIRY INTO EMPLOYEE SHARE OWNERSHIP IN AUSTRALIA—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- \*53 **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY: VOLUME 1 AND VOLUMES 3 TO 11—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Barresi*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the papers.
- 54 **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY: VOLUME 2 AND VOLUMES 12 TO 22—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Barresi*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the papers.
- 55 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGEING—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 March 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 57 **DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 58 **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON MARALINGA REHABILITATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 2003—Mr McGauran, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 59 **ADVISORY PANEL ON THE MARKETING OF INFANT HEALTH FORMULA—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 March 2003—Mr Sidebottom*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE—REPORT ON PREMIUM INCREASES FOR THE QUARTER BEGINNING 1 JANUARY 2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 March 2003—Mr Sidebottom*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 61 **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.
- 62 **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.
- 63 **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.
- 64 **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.

- 65 **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.
- 66 **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.
- 67 **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.
- 68 **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.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.
- 71 **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.
- 72 **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.
- 73 **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.
- 74 **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.
- 75 **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.
- 76 **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.
- 77 **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.
- 78 **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.
- 79 **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.
- 80 **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.
- 81 **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.
- 82 **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.

- 83 **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.
- 84 **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.
- 85 **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.
- 86 **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.
- 87 **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.
- 88 **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.
- 89 **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.
- 90 **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.
- 91 **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.
- 92 **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.
- 93 **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.
- 94 **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.
- 95 **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.
- 96 **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.
- 97 **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.
- 98 **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.
- 99 **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.
- 100 **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.

- 101 **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.
- 102 **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.
- 103 **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.
- 104 **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.
- 105 **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.
- 106 **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*).
  - \*Customs Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2003)—*moved 27 March 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Sidebottom*).
  - \*Customs Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2003)—*moved 27 March 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Sidebottom*).
  - 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*).
- 107 **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.

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## COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

### Orders of the day

- 1 **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 26 May 2003.*)
- 2 **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 26 May 2003.*)

- 3 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 4 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 5 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 6 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 7 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 8 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 9 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 10 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

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## PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

### Notices given for Tuesday, 13 May 2003

- \*1 **MR LLOYD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges that prostate cancer is now a major cause of death in Australian men with more than 2,500 men dying from prostate cancer annually;
  - (2) recognises the importance of prostate specific antigen (PSA) testing as a reliable and effective method of diagnosing early prostate cancer, providing the best possibility of a successful outcome;
  - (3) notes the reported collapse of a proposed national television awareness campaign about prostate cancer; and
  - (4) calls on the Federal Government to examine funding options which will enable increased research into prostate cancer, and provide additional and more effective awareness programs to assist in the early detection of prostate cancer. (*Notice given 27 March 2003.*)



\*2 **MS HOARE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that cancer of the cervix is the eighth most common cancer amongst females;
- (2) notes with satisfaction that as a result of the National Cervical Screening Program its incidence and mortality have been falling for many years;
- (3) encourages all Australian women to undertake regular screening for cervical cancer;
- (4) notes that although the Pap smear has been an effective screening test there is room for improvement;
- (5) understands that many Australian women are choosing the more accurate but costly ThinPrep Pap test for screening; and
- (6) urges the Minister to allow free access to the more reliable ThinPrep Pap test for all Australian women. (*Notice given 27 March 2003.*)

\*3 **MR BAIRD:** To move—That this House:

- (1) commends the Australian Government on its efforts to support the local film industry;
- (2) recognises the cultural and economic contribution that the Australian film industry makes to the nation; and
- (3) acknowledges the excellence of the film industry training centres in Australia. (*Notice given 27 March 2003.*)

\*4 **MR P. E. KING:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the importance to Australian families who are new home buyers of clear and fair arrangements for the entry into mortgages;
- (2) notes the recent calls by industry leaders for legislation for the finance broking industry to put in place an accredited licensing scheme; and
- (3) commends the Commonwealth Government and Australia's mortgage finance industry for their cooperative action in identifying measures including uniform legislation. (*Notice given 27 March 2003.*)

\*5 **DR SOUTHCOTT:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the problems and possibilities identified in the report *Maximising Australia's Asia Knowledge: repositioning and renewal of a national asset*, prepared by the Asian Studies Association of Australia;
- (2) recognises that the national interest is served by the knowledge Australians have of their world and particularly of their own diverse, complex region; and
- (3) commends efforts by governments, educational institutions, businesses and voluntary associations to renew, enhance and extend Australian knowledge of Asia. (*Notice given 27 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 advises what processes will be put in place to allow the detained Australians to be put on trial or to be released. (*Notice given 4 December 2002. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 28 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.)*

29 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.)*

30 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.)*

31 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.)*

32 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.)*

33 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

34 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

35 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

36 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

**37 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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

**38 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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

**39 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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

**40 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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

**41 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

42 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

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

- (1) notes that on 5 March 1804 the Battle of Vinegar Hill took place at what is today known as Rouse Hill, New South Wales;
- (2) notes that some 200 mainly Irish convicts, led by Phillip Cunningham, took part in Australia's first known armed rebellion against authorities, largely over the treatment of Irish convicts in both Britain and the colonies;
- (3) notes that next year marks the 200th anniversary of this battle;
- (4) notes that a steering committee of 5 Western Sydney Councils has been formed to stage a re-enactment and associated celebrations;
- (5) recognises that this Battle is a significant chapter in Australia's early convict history;
- (6) recognises that the Battle and its outcome helped shape the Australian character; and therefore:
- (7) urges the Government to provide whatever additional assistance is necessary to ensure a successful re-enactment of this historic battle; and
- (8) calls on the Government to commemorate this significant event by issuing a commemorative coin and stamp. (*Notice given 18 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

44 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 330 be replaced with the following:

- (a) A Standing Committee on Modernisation and Procedure of the House of Representatives shall be appointed to inquire into and report on practices and procedures of the House generally with a view to making recommendations for their improvement or change and for the development of new procedures.
- (b) The committee shall consist of the Speaker or his appointed Deputy Speaker, The Leader of the House or his appointed Deputy, the Manager of Opposition Business or his appointed Deputy and eight Members, four government Members and four non-government Members.
- (c) The Secretary of the Committee will be the Clerk or his Deputy. (*Notice given 18 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

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

- (1) values the contribution that all veterans who have served Australia have made;
- (2) expresses the appreciation of the contributions made by families of the veterans;
- (3) notes that to be entitled to a Veteran's Pension, veterans will have had to serve in campaigns overseas; and
- (4) expresses its strongest condemnation against the Government for treating veterans as second-class citizens by failing to allow the same voluntary direct debits to third parties, such as health funds, as those on Centrelink benefits are allowed to make. (*Notice given 24 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

46 **MRS IRWIN:** To move—That this House notes:

- (1) the very high levels of domestic violence in Vietnam and its consequences for women and children and urges international agencies and Vietnamese institutions to take action to detect and prevent abuse and calls on Non Government Organisations and AUSAID, in consultation with Vietnamese Government agencies, to initiate and promote education programs on gender equality, vocational rights and children's rights in Vietnam;
- (2) the high level of sex trafficking in Vietnam and neighbouring countries and related risks including increasing infection rates of HIV/AIDS and calls on Non Government Organisations and AUSAID to cooperate with the Vietnamese Government to train law enforcement officers to rescue and rehabilitate victims, to raise public awareness of the problem, to provide alternative employment and income earning opportunities for women and girls and to offer sex education for children; and
- (3) the lack of safe and effective fertility control available to women in Vietnam and the resulting very high level of legal abortions performed and calls on Non Government Organisations and AUSAID to assist in the development of accessible, safe and effective fertility control measures for women in Vietnam. (*Notice given 26 March 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

### Orders of the day

- 1 **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 26 May 2003.*)
- 2 **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 26 May 2003.*)
- 3 **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 26 May 2003.*)
- 4 **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 26 May 2003.*)
- 5 **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 26 May 2003.*)
- 6 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

- 7 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 8 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 9 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 10 **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 2 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 11 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 12 **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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 13 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 3 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 14 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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 15 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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 16 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 17 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 18 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 19 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 20 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 21 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 22 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 23 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

- 24 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 25 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 26 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 27 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 28 **LANG HANCOCK:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 March 2003*) on the motion of Mr Schultz—That, this year being the 50<sup>th</sup> 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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 29 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 30 **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 7 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 31 **MOBILE PHONE THEFT:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 March 2003*) on the motion of Mr King—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 32 **MATURE-AGE UNEMPLOYMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 March 2003—Mr Johnson, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms Burke—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 not to 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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 33 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REBATE:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 March 2003*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)
- 34 **PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 March 2003*) on the motion of Mr M. J. Ferguson—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 26 May 2003.*)

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

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

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

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## **BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE**

### **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

#### **Orders of the day**

- 1 **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*).
- 2 **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.
- 3 **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*).



## 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](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/info/notpaper/qons.pdf)

*13 February 2002*

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.

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.

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.

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 **DRLAWRENCE:** 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.
- 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. 715, 717)—

- (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.

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

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

**MS BURKE:** To ask the Ministers listed below (question No. 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.

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 (question No. 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.

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.

#### *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.

*16 October 2002*

- 1006 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Treasurer—Has his 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.

*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.

*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.

- 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*

- 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.

*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*

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*

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*

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.
- 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.

*4 February 2003*

- 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

#### 5 February 2003

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.

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.

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.

#### 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.

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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 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.

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*

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.

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.

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.

*12 February 2003*

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.

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.

*13 February 2003*

**MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1485 - 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.
- 1485 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.
- 1488 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 1491 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 1493 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 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.

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.

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.

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.

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*

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

#### *4 March 2003*

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.

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.

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.
- (5) 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.

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.

*6 March 2003*

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.

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.

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 routing 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.

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

- (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

*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.
- (9) Have any studies been undertaken in Australia into the number of Adhesive Arachnoiditis sufferers; if so, what are the details.
- (10) Has the Minister's Department, or any other Commonwealth agency, sponsored research into the after effects of the use of Myodil.
- (11) 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 Prime Minister—

- (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.

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.
- 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.
- 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.

*19 March 2003*

- 1651 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What (a) number and (b) percentage of all taxpayers failed to lodge an income tax return during each of the financial years ended 30 June 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.
- 1652 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is he aware of the case of Mr Tom Harrison, a barrister, who has been convicted of numerous offences relating to his failure to lodge an income tax return over a period of 14 years.
  - (2) Is he aware that, following that conviction, Mr Harrison again failed to lodge tax returns during the following two years.
  - (3) On how many occasions has the Commissioner of Taxation written to Mr Harrison to demand that he lodge a tax return.
  - (4) Has Mr Harrison lodged his tax returns on time for each of the financial years ended 30 June 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002; if not, what action has the Australian Taxation Office taken to ensure that Mr Harrison complies with the tax laws of Australia.
- 1653 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What has he done to prohibit a taxpayer from depositing income into an account of another person or entity with the intention of frustrating potential garnishee orders obtained by the Australian Taxation Office.

**MR MURPHY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1654 - 1671)—Has Mr Tom Harrison, a barrister who has been convicted of offences relating to the failure to lodge his income tax returns on at least 14 occasions, ever been retained by their Departments or Agencies in their portfolios; if so, (a) on how many occasions (b) for what periods of time and (c) for what purposes.

1654 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1655 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1656 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer.

1657 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1658 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1659 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1660 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1661 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

1662 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

1663 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1664 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1665 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1666 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1667 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1668 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

1669 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1671 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

1675 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has the Australian Defence Force or the Department of Defence hired Phillips Fox as its legal Counsel in the WA Medical Board of Inquiry into the doctor aboard HMAS *Kanimbla*.
- (2) Is Phillips Fox also acting in the related matters before the Defence Ombudsman and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.
- (3) Has the Medical Board of WA outlined the particulars of a case against the doctor on board HMAS *Kanimbla*; if so, when and what are they.
- (4) Were the particulars provided before or after approval was given for the doctor to deploy.

1676 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) As at 12 March 2003, had all papers, files, records and information requested by the WA Medical Board of Inquiry been provided to the Board by the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and/or the Department's legal representatives; if not, why not?
- (2) Has she or will she direct the ADF and/or the Department and their legal representatives to fully cooperate with the WA Medical Board of Inquiry.
- (3) As at 12 March 2003, had all papers, files, records and information requested by the Defence Ombudsman and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, in their investigations of complaints against the doctor on board HMAS *Kanimbla*, been provided to them by the ADF and/or the Department's legal representatives; if not, why not.
- (4) Has she or will she direct the ADF and/or the Department to fully co operate with the Defence Ombudsman and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission investigations.
- (5) Can she confirm that the WA Medical Board of Inquiry had tentatively set down a five day hearing for October 2003 to consider complaints against the doctor on board HMAS *Kanimbla*.

1677 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the process required in a redress of grievance complaint.
- (2) In relation to the former Executive Officer of HMAS *Stirling*, was the redress of grievance process followed; if not, why not.
- (3) What, if any, investigations have been conducted into the complaint by the former Executive Officer of HMAS *Stirling*; when were they conducted and by whom.

1679 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In developing a blended company of Army reservists for deployment in: (a) East Timor and (b) Butterworth, Malaysia, have guidelines been developed for the period of full-time training required to bring the reservists up to an appropriate stage of readiness; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- (2) What was the period of full-time training for reservists deployed to: (a) East Timor and (b) Butterworth and, in each case, (i) what was the cost and (ii) from which program was it funded.
- (3) What, if any, additional equipment was provided to the two reserve companies and at what cost.
- (4) In Army planning, how many Reserve Brigades are required to yield a blended volunteer Reserve Company.

1681 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many people in the electoral division of Prospect received the Baby Bonus in 2002-03.
- (2) How many people in the electoral division of Prospect received a payment of \$2,500 in 2002-03.
- (3) How many people in the electoral division of Prospect received a payment of \$500 in 2002-03.
- (4) How many people in the electoral division of Prospect have applied for a Baby Bonus payment in 2002-03 and been rejected.

**MS HOARE:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1682 - 1699)—

- (1) Does the Minister's Department administer any Commonwealth funded programs for which community organisations, businesses or individuals in the electoral division of Charlton 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, (b) were these paid advertisements, and if so, (c) what was the cost of each advertisement.
- (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 Charlton received funding in (i) 1999, (ii) 2000, (iii) 2001, and (iv) 2002.
- (5) What is the name and address of each recipient.

1683 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1685 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1686 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1688 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1689 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

1690 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.

1691 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1692 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1694 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1695 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1696 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

1697 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1698 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

1699 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

1700 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Can he provide details (dates, time, locations, with whom and content) of his dealings with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the matter of Iraqi refugees arising from a potential conflict with Iraq and will he advise whether these meetings included discussion of the number of refugees Australia would accept from Iraq in the event of an outbreak of hostilities.
- (2) Can he provide details (dates, time, locations, with whom and content) of his dealings with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) on the matter of Iraqi refugees and Internally Displaced Persons arising from a conflict with Iraq.

- (3) Can he provide details (dates, time, locations, with whom and content) of his dealings with different UN bodies regarding Australia's involvement in post-war reconstruction efforts in Iraq.
- (4) On how many occasions has he spoken in support of regime change in Iraq.
- (5) On how many occasions has he, or his office, had direct dealings with the Iraqi Embassy since March 2002.
- (6) Can he provide details of the Government's assessment of: (a) the number of (i) nuclear weapons warheads, (ii) chemical weapons warheads and (iii) biological weapons warheads, and (b) the number of missiles including: (i) the type, and (ii) their range, in Iraq's possession.

1702 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What are the details of his Department's dealings (including the dates, time, locations, with whom, and content) with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the matter of Iraqi refugees arising from a potential conflict with Iraq and did these dealings include any discussion of the number of refugees Australia would accept from Iraq in the event of an outbreak of hostilities.
- (3) What are the details of his Department's dealings (including the dates, time, locations, with whom, and content) with different UN bodies regarding Australia's involvement in post-war reconstruction efforts in Iraq.

1704 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) Has he engaged in consultations with Baptist Community Care concerning the proposed closure of the Church Nursing Home in Blyth Street, Brunswick, and has he engaged in consultations with anyone else regarding this issue; if so, with whom.
- (2) Did the Commonwealth provide capital assistance for the Church Nursing Home before, during, or after its construction in 1995; if so, (a) what was the value of that capital assistance, (b) were there any conditions attached to the provision of that assistance and (c) will the Commonwealth be seeking a refund of any or all of that capital assistance.
- (3) Does the Government have any policy to ensure that capital assistance for nursing homes is not wasted; for example, if a nursing home constructed with Commonwealth funds were proposed to be demolished after 30 days is there any action the Commonwealth could take to prevent this.
- (4) Does the Government have any policy concerning the re-allocation of bed licences; for example, if a body which has an allocation of bed licences sought to transfer those licences to a facility in an area of lesser need, would the Government allow this; if so, in what circumstances.
- (6) Has he received representations from the Member for Gippsland concerning Baptist Community Care nursing home facilities; if so, what action did he take following those representations.

1705 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) In respect to section 14 of the *Privacy Act 1988* which limits the disclosure of personal information by Commonwealth government agencies, and especially IPP 11, which states, *inter alia*; "(a) the individual concerned is reasonably likely to have been aware, or made aware under Principle 2, that information of that kind is usually passed to that person, body or agency; (b) the individual concerned has consented to the disclosure"; how is this applied to inquiries by Members of Parliament and their staff to Centrelink officers following requests by a constituent to act on their behalf, or to make representations to Centrelink on their behalf.
- (2) Will he issue an instruction to all Centrelink staff that staff are to cooperate with Members of Parliament and their staff, subject to the provision of the constituent's Centrelink Customer Reference Number, and other verification information, notwithstanding written authorisation.

1706 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Were the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs' staff members, Mr Peter McConnell and Mr Damian Callachor acting on the Minister's directions during their two day trip to the Richmond electorate on 11 and 12 March 2003; if not, under whose direction were they acting.
- (2) Did the Commonwealth Government initially pay the airfares from Canberra to the electoral division of Richmond for the 2 staff members concerned; if so (a) what was the cost of those flights and (b) has the cost of these flights been repaid; if so when.
- (3) Did any staff members of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs claim Travel Allowance for the night of 11 March 2003; if so, has this allowance been repaid to the Commonwealth; if so, when.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that a hire car was authorised for two members of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs' staff for the night of 11 March 2003 and can the Minister also confirm that these

payments have now been repaid; if so, on what date was this repayment received by the Commonwealth.

- (5) Who authorised the payment of the hire car and under which Member or Senator's entitlement was it initially paid.
- (6) Will taxpayer funds be used by any of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs' staff to attend a court hearing on 7 April at Tweed Heads in respect to an incident on 11 March 2003.

*20 March 2003*

1707 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many detained asylum seekers have died in Australia (including Christmas Island) in a detention centre or in a hospital or other place to which they might have been taken while under detention in each year since the introduction of mandatory detention in 1989; of those deaths in each year, how many were: (a) women, and (b) children.
- (2) How many died: (a) prior to a first determination being made about their claim, and (b) prior to a final determination.
- (3) In respect of each detainee who died: (a) in which detention centre were they detained, (b) how long had they been detained, (c) what was the cause of death, and (d) how was the cause of death established.

1709 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many refugees on temporary protection visas have died while in Australia in each year since 1999.
- (2) How many inquests into the deaths: (a) have been completed, and (b) are in process but have not been completed.
- (3) Have any of the deaths not been investigated by an inquest; if so, why.
- (4) Do State and Territory Coroners have jurisdiction into the deaths of asylum seekers which occur in Commonwealth detention centres.
- (5) In respect of each completed inquest: (a) what were the findings and recommendations of the Coroner, (b) have the staff of his Department or Australasian Correctional Management Pty Ltd (ACM) been criticised for: (i) the treatment of the deceased, (ii) the treatment of the deceased's family, or (iii) failure to provide adequate documentation and information to the inquest; if so, what are the details of the criticism; (c) were changes recommended to: (i) the conditions of detention, (ii) departmental practices, (iii) the practices of ACM, (iv) the provision of medical care, or (v) access to medical services including counselling services; if so, what are the details; and (e) have similar recommendations been made in more than one coronial report; if so, what are they.
- (6) How many deaths have been attributed to suicide and, in respect of these deaths, did the Coroner's findings make any recommendations for changes his Department's staff or ACM staff should make to procedures; if so, what were those recommendations.

1710 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) In respect of the procedures for dealing with the deaths of asylum seekers detained under Australian jurisdiction, and the treatment of their relatives, what are the procedures or protocols his Department uses to deal with: (a) deaths of asylum seekers in detention or in a hospital or other place to which they were removed from a place of detention, and (b) the deaths of refugees on temporary protection visas.
- (2) What is his Department's protocol for burial of the deceased.
- (3) What are his Department's policies, procedures or guidelines for dealing with close relatives and friends at the time of death and/or in the period leading up to death, and how does it ensure that these are implemented.
- (4) What are his Department's processes for the internal review of: (a) deaths in detention facilities or in a hospital or other place to which an asylum seeker was removed from a place of detention, and (b) of deaths of refugees on temporary protection visas.
- (5) Is his Department responsible for informing families of the deceased of their rights in respect of: (a) requesting a Coronial inquest, or (b) representation at any Coronial process or inquest; if so, what procedures does it have to fulfil this responsibility and how does it ensure they are implemented; if not, is he able to say whether these responsibilities lie with the Coroner in each jurisdiction.

- 1711 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—How many applications for temporary protection visas has his Department received from followers of Falun Gong or Falun Dafa and how many of these applications have been approved to date.
- 1712 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of reports in the *Macarthur Advertiser* on 12 February 2003, stating that Mr Pat Farmer, MP, repaid almost \$700 last week after breaching government guidelines relating to the use of his taxpayer-funded newsletter.
  - (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Member for Macarthur breached the guidelines and that the Minister requested repayment; if so, what are the details.
  - (3) Can the Minister confirm that the Member for Macarthur has now repaid \$700 for the misuse of his newsletter allowance; if so, (a) on what date was the repayment received, and (b) is he able to say whether the repayment was made from a campaign fund or by the Member personally.
  - (4) Can the Minister explain on what basis or by what calculation this amount of money was determined.
- 1714 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many people were declared bankrupt during the financial years ended 30 June 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.
  - (2) During the financial year ended 30 June 2002, how many people were declared bankrupt for: (a) a second time, (b) a third time, (c) a fourth time, (d) a fifth time, (e) a sixth time, (f) a seventh time, (g) an eighth time, (h) a ninth time, (i) a tenth time, and (j) an eleventh time.
  - (3) What is the maximum number of times an individual has been declared bankrupt.
- 1715 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he aware that hundreds of private yachts traverse the waters currently under the control of coalition forces off the coast of Yemen and that the majority of these yachts are from Australia, the United States, and Europe including Britain.
  - (2) Is he aware that several yachts have been attacked by pirates recently; including the British registered yacht *Bambola* on 2 March 2003 and a group of 5 yachts, 4 from Australia and 1 from the USA, on 9 March 2003.
  - (3) What role do coalition forces in the region, including Australian warships, have in providing assistance and protection from piracy to private yachts.
  - (4) Will he consider reviewing the role played by coalition forces, including Australian forces, to provide better protection from piracy to private yachts.
  - (5) Have any discussions taken place with our coalition partners on these matters; if not, will he consider raising the issue of better protection for private yachts in this region with Australia's coalition partners.

*24 March 2003*

- 1716 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Why he is proposing the introduction of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) for overseas students wanting to undertake secondary or other studies in Australia and how will this English language testing assist to ensure compliance with visa conditions.
  - (2) How will this change crack down on educational institutions with high non-compliance records.
  - (3) Why has he chosen a process that targets applicants from the People's Republic of China (PRC) and bypasses UK applicants, when UK visitors have a relatively high non-compliance rate of 11% against the Chinese visitors' non-compliance rate of 5%.
  - (4) What research has his Department undertaken to investigate the impact this will have on Australian educational institutions and their viability, given that it is estimated that this proposal will reduce the number of students from the largest market, China, by up to 90%.
  - (5) How, when, where and with whom were consultations undertaken in relation to the proposed IELTS testing.
  - (6) What measures will his Department take to ensure the visa processing time for PRC applicants does not extend beyond the current 16 week period.
  - (7) If and when is he planning to implement these proposed changes and what notice of the changes does he intend to give to educational institutions if the changes are implanted.

1717 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is the Government aware of any program by Pakistan to produce chemical or biological weapons.
- (2) Considering Pakistan is not a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and has successfully tested nuclear weapons as recently as 1998, is the Government concerned that this technology may, in some way, be obtained by terrorist organisations, in particular, Al-Qaeda.
- (3) Has the Government sought assurances from the Government of Pakistan that all efforts have been made to ensure that nuclear weapons technology and materiel is not being traded, either with other states or with terrorist organisations.
- (4) Is the Government confident that there are no longer any links between the Pakistani intelligence service (ISI) and remnants of the Taliban and Al-Qaeda; if so, what is the basis of this confidence; if not, why not.
- (5) Is the Government aware of any ongoing trade in nuclear weapons technology and materiel between Pakistan and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea (PDRK); if so, what efforts is the Government taking to end this trade.

1719 **MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Does the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs have a policy detailing the circumstances in which it would be appropriate to fund Migrant Resource Centre (MRC) outposts in either urban or non-urban areas; if so, what criteria apply to the consideration of requests to establish such outposts; if not, will he consider the development of such a policy.
- (2) How many MRC outposts currently receive funding from the Department and, in respect of each such outpost: (a) when was it established, (b) what is the parent MRC, (c) in which federal electorate is it located, and (d) what is the geographical area that it covers.
- (3) Since the 2001 election, how many formal requests, if any, has the Department received for the establishment of additional MRC outposts and, in respect of each request: (a) when was it received, (b) what was the requesting MRC, (c) what was the proposed geographical area for the outpost, (d) in which federal electorate was the proposed location, and (e) what was the response to the request.

1720 **MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware of research released by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission on 24 February 2003 on the phenomenon of cyber-racism; if so, does the research show that the Internet is being used to promote: (a) notions of racial superiority and violence, (b) racist groups, (c) extremist literature, (d) race hate music, and (e) racist games, via email, websites, chat rooms, newsgroups and web order catalogues.
- (2) Do the aims of the Living in Harmony initiative include an effective focus upon combating racism and encouraging respect, goodwill and understanding between Australians of all ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds and does the prevalence of cyber-racism run counter to these aims; if so, what actions, if any, has he taken to initiate suitable educational measures to alert the Internet industry and users of the Internet to the need to combat the phenomenon.

1723 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—Further to the answer to question No. 1111 (*Hansard*, 18 March 2003, page 12622) concerning the Centenary of Federation, was travelling allowance payable to members of the National Council of the Centenary of Federation in addition to their daily sitting fees; if so, what was the amount of travelling allowance payable and was this allowance payable irrespective of whether they stayed in commercial accommodation.

1724 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—In respect of his statutory obligations under the provisions of section 71 of the *Airports Act 1996*, in particular subsections 71(2)(d), 71(2)(e), 71(2)(f), 71(2)(g) and 71(2)(h), and the current administrative procedures leading to the tabling of the draft Master Plan for Sydney Airport, will he ensure that the airport lessee company for Sydney Airport drafts a Master Plan for Sydney Airport that includes: (a) the Ministerial Direction known as the Long Term Operating Plan for Sydney Airport as a formal part of the Master Plan; if so, when will he make this announcement; if not, why not, and (b) provisions within the instrument that bind the Airport Lessee Company to all relevant pollution, land management and environmental law under the law of the State of New South Wales; if not, why not.

1725 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In respect of his statutory obligations under the provisions of section 71 of the *Airports Act 1996*, in particular subsections 71(2)(a), 71(2)(b), 71(8) and 71(9), and the current administrative procedures leading to the tabling of the draft Master Plan for Sydney Airport, will he ensure that the airport lessee company for Sydney Airport drafts a Master Plan for Sydney Airport that includes:

(a) reinstatement of pricing surveillance provisions as a relevant part of the Master Plan for aviation and non-aviation pricing relating to Sydney Airport, in line with the airport-lessee company's assessment of future needs of civil aviation users of the airport, and other users of the airport for services and facilities relating to the airport; if so, when will he make these provisions known to the airport-lessee company; if not, why not, and (b) provisions accommodating new aircraft types resulting in revised noise contours, such as the A330 Airbus, as presented to the Sydney Airport Community Forum on 29 November 2002; if so, when; if not why not.

- (2) Will he ensure that new aircraft types known to be entering the market are accommodated in revised noise contours in accordance with subsection 71(8) thus ensuring compliance with AS2021; if so, when will he instruct the airport lessee company to do this; if not, why not.

1726 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Who is currently the airport lessee company for Sydney Airport.  
 (2) Why is the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited (SACL) drafting, exhibiting and liaising with the public on the Master Plan, at taxpayer expense, when title to the long term operating lease has passed to private ownership.

1727 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Has he recently declared his support for human rights in the Middle East; if so, will he now apologise to the parents whom he claimed to have thrown their children overboard during the last Federal election campaign.

1728 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did the Government increase the excise on diesel fuel on 1 January 2003.  
 (2) Did the Government simultaneously increase the on-road diesel fuel rebate for the transport industry.  
 (3) Will B-Double vehicles be denied access to the Pacific Highway; if so, will more rest areas be provided to cater for the increase in the number of heavy vehicles using the Pacific Highway.  
 (4) When will the 'mass management' scheme become national.

1729 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What plans does the Government have to improve the terrible road conditions and traffic problems of the Ipswich motorway.  
 (2) Does the Government acknowledge the severely bad condition of the Ipswich motorway and accept responsibility for the occurrence of regular accidents, danger to property and lives and for the damage to the Ipswich economy.  
 (3) Does the Government acknowledge that the Ipswich motorway is a federally funded road.  
 (4) Is it the case that the Government funded a \$2 million master plan for the Ipswich motorway prepared by the Queensland Government; if so, when will the Federal Government act on the plan's recommendations.  
 (5) When will the Government make a commitment to fund the much-needed works and upgrade the Ipswich motorway.

1731 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is it the case that SAS soldiers are a small and limited resource and that all available SAS troops are committed to the war with Iraq; if so, does the Federal Government have a strategy to increase numbers of SAS soldiers in the Australian Armed Forces.  
 (2) What policy or planning has been put into place to ensure adequate numbers of SAS soldiers into the future.

1732 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What is his Department's policy in respect of staffing overseas posts.  
 (2) What are the proportions of locally engaged staff and staff posted from Australia funded by his Department at each overseas post.

1733 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What is the Government doing to halt the serious decline in the bulk billing of medical services.  
 (2) Is the Minister able to say how much the bulk billing of medical services has declined in recent times.  
 (3) Is the Minister able to quantify the savings to the Government arising from the decline in bulk billing and where have these savings been applied.



- 1734 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Centrelink's International Division is attempting to recoup money it has inadvertently overpaid to recipients of pensions from both Holland and Australia.
  - (2) What number and proportion of pensioners receiving a Dutch and an Australian pension have incurred a debt to the Commonwealth.
  - (3) Recipients of which other overseas pensions are affected and what proportions in those groups have incurred a debt to the Commonwealth.
- 1735 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Since its inception how many calls has each National Security Hotline call centre received.
  - (2) How many of those calls were followed up and how many people have been detained as a result of those calls.
- 1736 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister assisting the Minister for Defence —
- (1) Since the introduction of the National Service Medal how many people have been entitled to receive it.
  - (2) To date how many applications for a National Service Medal have been (a) received and (b) issued: (i) nationally, (ii) in each state and territory, and (iii) in the electoral division of Oxley.
  - (3) What is the average time taken to process an application for a National Service Medal.
  - (4) What is the longest time taken to process an application for a National Service Medal.
  - (5) Why has the Government not organised any formal public ceremonies to present the National Service Medal.
  - (6) Have there been any delays experienced in the delivery of National Service Medals; if so, why.
- 1737 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How does the Federal Government support and compensate veterans for any trauma they suffer.
  - (2) Is she able to say how many veterans will be entitled to full government support after having served in Iraq.
  - (3) Is she able to estimate the future cost to the Government of supporting veterans of the Iraq war.
- 1738 **MS VAMVAKINO:** To ask the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—What was the role of the Government in funding and supporting the fire fighting brigade service at the Mt. Stromlo observatory that ceased operating in 1996.
- 1739 **MS VAMVAKINO:** To ask the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—What sums were allocated in local government financial assistance grants in (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 to the (i) City of Hume, (ii) City of Brimbank, (iii) Shire of Nillumbik and (iv) City of Moreland.
- 1743 **MS VAMVAKINO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for concession card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-00, (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02 and (e) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
  - (2) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for DVA treatment card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-00, (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02 and (e) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
  - (3) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for non-concession or DVA treatment card holders during (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-00, (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02 and (e) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
  - (4) 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) 1999-00, (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02 and (e) 2002-03, in (i) Victoria, (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

1744 **MS VAMVAKINO**: 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) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (2) What was the total number of families that have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

1745 **MS VAMVAKINO**: To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (2) What was the total number of families that have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (3) 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) 1999-00, (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02 and (e) 2002-03.
- (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) 1999-00, (c) 2000-01, (d) 2001-02 and (e) 2002-03.

1746 **MS VAMVAKINO**: 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) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (2) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

1747 **MS VAMVAKINO**: To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (2) What was the total number of Medicare services provided during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (3) How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Calwell, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

1748 **MS VAMVAKINO**: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—

- (1) On most recent data, how many Child Support Agency clients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (2) On the most recent data, how many youth allowance recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

1749 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** 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 Calwell, (b) the name and address of each centre, and (c) the sum of Commonwealth funding that each centre received in: (i) 2001-02, and (ii) 2002-03.
- (2) Which (a) Commonwealth funded child centres located in the electorate of Calwell have been overpaid and (b) what sum is each childcare centre being asked to repay.

1750 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—

- (1) 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) Victoria, and (iii) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (2) How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit in the electoral division of Calwell received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2001-02 and (b) 2002-03 in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

1751 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) On the most recent data, how many Newstart allowance recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (2) On the most recent data, how many Family Payment Greater than Minimum recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (3) On the most recent data, how many disability support pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.
- (4) On the most recent data, how many age pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

1752 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** 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) in the postcode areas of (a) 3036, (b) 3037, (c) 3038, (d) 3043, (e) 3046 (f) 3047, (g) 3048, (h) 3049, (i) 3059, (j) 3060, (k) 3061, (l) 3064, (m) 3427, and (n) 3428.

*25 March 2003*

1754 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Has the Minister received an evaluation of the Men and Family Relationships initiative prepared by consultants Phoenix Projects; if so, when will the Minister release the findings of the evaluation.
- (2) Will the Minister release the findings of the evaluation before the 2003-2004 Budget is announced.

1755 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What guidelines has he put in place in respect of acceptable timeframes for his Ministers to respond to correspondence to their Ministerial Offices.
- (2) Is he aware that; (a) a letter I wrote to the Minister for Family and Community Services on behalf of a constituent on 25 January 2002 did not receive a response until 27 September 2002, and (b) a letter I wrote to the Treasurer on 25 November 2002 did not receive a response until 3 March 2003.
- (3) Are the respective timeframes of 8 months and 3½ months unacceptable lengths of time for Ministers to respond to correspondence; if not, why not
- (4) Do these response times conflict with his Code of Conduct for Ministers; if not, why not.

1756 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—Is the Department of Health and Ageing considering whether or not to list insulin pump consumables on the National Diabetes Services Scheme; if not, why not; if so, is the Minister able to say when the Department will make its decision.

1757 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—Since the beginning of the “Tough on Drugs” program; (a) which projects based in the electoral division of Hasluck have

received funding under the program, (b) how much funding has each project received, and (c) which agency is responsible for each project.

1758 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—For the electoral division of Hasluck in each of the financial years ending 30 June 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, what was: (a) the total number of debts incurred, (b) the average debt incurred, and (c) the proportion of the total debt incurred for each of the following benefit categories: (i) Age Pension, (ii) Austudy, (iii) Disability Support Pension, (iv) Mature Age Allowance, (v) Newstart Allowance, (vi) Parenting Payment, (vii) Partner Allowance, (viii) Wife Pension, (ix) Youth Allowance, (x) Carer Allowance, (xi) Disability Support Pension, and (xii) Family Tax Benefit.

1759 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Which of the following suburbs in the electoral division of Hasluck have: (a) total access, (b) partial access, or (c) no access at all to Telstra's Internet ADSL Broadband technology: Bellevue, Castle Glen, Caversham, Crestwood, Forest Lakes, Forrestfield Gooseberry Hill, Gosnells, Guildford, Hazelmere, Helena Valley, High Wycombe, Huntingdale, Kalamunda, Kenwick, Koongamia, Lesmurdie, Maddington, Maida Vale, Martin, Middle Swan, Midland, Midvale, Orange Grove, South Guildford, Thornlie, Viveash, Walliston, Wattle Grove, West Swan, and Woodbridge.
- (2) In respect of each suburb which is currently unable to access Telstra's Internet broadband technology, is the Minister able to: (a) confirm whether or not this is due to existing pair gaining technology; if not, what is the reason for lack of access, and (b) say when they will be able to access Telstra's Internet ADSL Broadband technology; if not, why not.
- (3) Which exchanges within the electoral division of Hasluck are: (a) ADSL broadband enabled, and (b) not ADSL broadband enabled.
- (4) How close to an ADSL enabled exchange must a customer be located to guarantee them access to ADSL broadband.
- (5) Are there any other factors which affect ADSL broadband access other than excessive distance to an ADSL enabled exchange.

1760 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is it the case that; (a) two independent, eminent medical specialists examined former Senator, Dr Malcolm Arthur Colston in May 1999 and both concluded that Dr Colston had only months to live and, (b) the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) concluded that, in light of the medical evidence, Dr Colston was terminally ill and unfit to stand trial.
- (2) Can he confirm that the DPP commenced a third review of Dr Colston's case in July 2002 in relation to his state of health and his capacity to stand trial on 28 charges of defrauding the Commonwealth; if so, why has it taken the DPP over nine months to establish the veracity of Dr Colston's claims in respect of his state of health and his capacity to stand trial.
- (3) Did the DPP tell a Senate Legislation Committee on 20 November 2002 that he expected to have an answer to the review before the end of last year; if so, what is the reason for the delay.
- (4) Is there anything that he or the DPP can do to expedite the resolution of this serious matter of public interest.

### *26 March 2003*

1761 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What is the Australian Taxation Office doing in relation to the investigation of members of the legal profession in States and Territories outside New South Wales who have: (a) failed to lodge tax returns on time, and (b) abused family law and/or bankruptcy as a tool to avoid paying their creditors, particularly the Taxation Commissioner.

**MR MURPHY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. \*1762 - \*1765)—Do the Australian Taxation Office, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission and the Insolvency and Trustee Service of Australia share information with a view to each body fulfilling its objectives laid out in its business plan; if not, why not.

1762 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer.

1763 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1765 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

1766 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Before appointing magistrates and judges to the bench, does he take steps to ensure that the nominees do not have a history of tax avoidance or any outstanding obligations under Australia's tax laws that would bring into question their suitability to be appointed; if so, what are those steps; if not, why not.
- (2) Before appointing Royal Commissioners and members of Commonwealth Tribunals, does he take steps to ensure that the nominees do not have a history of tax avoidance or any outstanding obligations under Australia's tax laws that would bring into question their suitability to be appointed; if so, what are those steps; if not, why not.

1767 **MR CAUSLEY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Endangered Species Unit applying the Federal precautionary principle to the exotic and toxic camphor laurel tree; if not, why not.
- (2) Is he aware that the introduced tree is invasive in five states and there is increasing evidence of its toxicity to native birds and animals.

**MR DANBY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. \*1769 - \*1770)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the move of the majority of the ABC Television studios in Melbourne from Ripponlea to Southbank.
- (2) Is the Minister aware of residents' concerns about the future of the land at Ripponlea, and that the unclear status has led to fear, insecurity and great speculation.
- (3) What is the history of the ownership and use of the land.
- (4) In respect of the decision on the future of the land at Ripponlea: (a) who is responsible for making the decision, (b) when will it be made, (c) what will be the process for making this decision, (d) what factors will be taken into account, and (e) will the public have an opportunity to comment during the process.
- (5) Can the Minister assure residents that the land will: (a) not become housing estates, and (b) will be returned to the public.
- (6) Is the Minister aware that the closest public park in the area is over a kilometre away, out of walking distance of most of the elderly and younger residents.
- (7) Is the Minister aware that a small piece of former Crown land in the area on the corner of Dorgan Street and Kooyong Road was recently returned to the public as a Memorial Park; if so, is the Minister able to say whether that decision is a useful precedent in respect of the land at Ripponlea.

1769 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1770 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1771 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that *The Age* of 14 March 2003 reported that the ABC Website is outside the coverage of the ABC Code of Practice.
- (2) What media does the ABC Code of Practice cover and, in particular, does it cover Internet content; if not, why not.
- (3) Over what media does the Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA) have jurisdiction and, in particular, does it cover ABC Internet content; if not, why not.
- (4) Is the ABA restricted to matters covered by the ABC Code of Practice; if so, why.
- (5) What authority does the Government have over the ABC Code of Practice.
- (6) Will the government direct the ABC to bring Internet content under its Code of Practice; if not, why not.

*27 March 2003*

1773 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has there been any change to the route taken by aircraft taking off to the South from Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport; if so, (a) what have those changes been, and (b) what has been the reason for those changes.

**MR MURPHY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. \*1774 - \*1777)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that some media organisations have shown images of prisoners of war in the course of covering the war in Iraq.

- (2) Is it the case that Article 13 of the Geneva Convention III states that prisoners of war must at all times be “protected, particularly against acts of violence or intimidation and against insults and public curiosity”.
- (3) Is it also the case that Article 27 of Geneva Convention IV has the same provisions for civilian prisoners and includes restrictions of photographing and filming military and civilian prisoners of war.
- (4) Has the Minister provided any advice or direction to public or private media organisations regarding Article 13 of the Geneva Convention III or Article 27 of Geneva Convention IV; if so; what was that advice; if not, why not.
- (5) Can the Minister guarantee that Coalition forces will treat all captives humanely and in compliance with the laws governing armed conflict; if not, why not.

1774 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1775 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1776 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1777 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

**MR MURPHY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. \*1778 - \*1781)—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm whether any of the weapons fired or missiles launched by the coalition forces in the war on Iraq contain depleted uranium; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that depleted uranium is a radioactive and toxic element and that exposure to it can, amongst other things, cause lung cancer, damage the liver and kidneys, affect bone marrow and destroy stem cells that form white cells resulting in mutations and genetic damage.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the threat to the environment of depleted uranium; if not, why not.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of Article 35 of the Geneva protocols that prohibit the use of weapons that cause and inflict unnecessary injury and suffering; if not, why not.
- (5) What is the Minister doing to ensure that weapons and missiles currently being used by the coalition forces in the war on Iraq do not contain depleted uranium.

1778 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1779 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1780 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1781 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

**MR MURPHY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. \*1782 - \*1783)—

- (1) Is he aware that the Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia (ITSA) Annual Report for 2001-02 notes at page 16 that voluntary debtor petitions (bankruptcies initiated by the debtor) accepted by ITSA “account for 94 per cent of bankruptcies”.
- (2) Were 22,668 debtors petitions accepted by ITSA in 2001-02; if not, what is the correct number.
- (3) What is (a) the number and (b) the percentage of debtors’ petitions lodged by persons in the following occupations (Business Industry Code): (i) Barristers (78410), (ii) Solicitors (78410), (iii) General Medical Practitioners (86210), (iv) other Medical Practitioners (86221-86228 and 86230), and (v) Accountants and associated occupations (78420).
- (4) Is it the case that the number of debt agreements under Part IX of the *Bankruptcy Act 1996* increased significantly from 2,240 agreements in 2000-01 to 5,647 agreements in 2001-02.
- (5) In respect of Table 23 on page 28 of the ITSA Annual Report within the Report on the Operation of the *Bankruptcy Act 1966* for 2001-2002, can he identify whether legal practitioners are classified within the occupation category; (a) 2200 – Business Professionals, (b) 2500 – Social, Arts and Miscellaneous Professionals, or (c) another group.
- (6) Is the ‘occupation group’ code referred to in the ITSA report the same coding system as the ‘Business Industry Code’ system used by Australian Taxation Office; if not, how can information published in the annual reports of the Commissioner of Taxation be compared with the ‘occupation group’ aggregations published in the annual reports of ITSA.
- (7) In its efforts to effectively and efficiently administer bankrupt estates, is ITSA active in the areas of: (a) asset recovery, and (b) the claw back of superannuation payments designed to defeat creditors and other initiatives.

- (8) Why are both the ITSA Annual Report and the Inspector-General's Report on the Operation of the *Bankruptcy Act 1966* for 2001-2002 silent on the high and increasing incidence of the abuse of bankruptcy legislation, including the abuse of lawful bankruptcy instruments such as those permitted under Part IX and Part X, to avoid or evade taxation or otherwise intentionally take assets out of the reach of creditors, in particular, the Commissioner of Taxation.
- (9) Are the percentage and number of; (a) total bankruptcies and (b) bankruptcies initiated via debtors' petitions, whose sole or principal creditor is the Commissioner of Taxation, published in any of the following reports: (i) the ITSA Annual Report for 2001-02 or for previous years, (ii) the ITSA Report on the Operation of the *Bankruptcy Act 1996* for 2001-02 or for previous years, (iii) the ITSA Office of the Chief Executive and Inspector-General Annual Report by the Inspector-General in Bankruptcy on the Operation of the Bankruptcy Act report for 2000-01 or for previous years; if so, where; if not, why not.
- (10) What are (1) the percentage, and (2) the number of: (a) total bankruptcies, and (b) bankruptcies initiated via debtors' petitions, for the years ending 30 June (i) 2000, (ii) 2001, and (iii) 2002, which have as their sole or principal creditor, the Commissioner of Taxation.
- (11) Why are the ITSA Annual Reports and Inspector-General's Report on the Operation of the *Bankruptcy Act 1966* for 2001-2002 silent on the fact that the Commissioner of Taxation is the sole or principal creditor for a significant number of debtor petition and other bankruptcy applications.
- (12) What action is the Minister taking to address the issue of debtors' petitions, debtors' arrangements and other lawful bankruptcy instruments being abused as tax avoidance and tax evasion devices; if no action is being taken, why.
- (13) If action is being taken, why is this action not being reported within the ITSA Annual Reports and the reports of the Inspector-General's Report on the Operation of the *Bankruptcy Act 1966*.
- (14) Has the Minister initiated meetings between the Taxation Commission, the Chief Executive and Inspector-General in Bankruptcy and other relevant parties, with a view to specifically deal with the abuse of lawful bankruptcy instruments such as Part IX, Part X, debtors' petitions and debtors' arrangements, in order to avoid taxation or otherwise take debtors' assets out of the reach of their creditors, in particular, the Commissioner of Taxation; if not, why not.

1782 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1783 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1784 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General —

- (1) Is the stated purpose of the *Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment Act 2002* "To make a number of significant changes to the *Bankruptcy Act 1966* which... will encourage debtors to seriously consider using alternatives to bankruptcy where possible, and make bankruptcy less of an 'easy option'.".
- (2) Can he confirm that bankruptcies have increased threefold over the past ten years from 8,493 in 1989-90 to 23,298 in 1999-2000.
- (3) Can he confirm the figures indicating the sharp rise in debtor agreements during the following years: (a) 1996-96 – 47 debt agreements, (b) 1997-98 – 369 debt agreements, (c) 1998-99 – 480 debt agreements, (d) 2000-01 – 2,240 debt agreements, (e) 2001-02 – 5,647 debt agreements.
- (4) What is the reason for this sharp increase in debt agreements.
- (5) What is the reason for the sharp increase in repeat bankruptcies from less than two per cent of former bankrupts in 1992-93 for both standard and early discharge former bankrupts, to over 10 per cent for repeat bankruptcies after standard discharge and nearly seven per cent for repeat bankruptcies after early discharge.
- (6) What are the most common occupations of those engaging in repeat or serial bankruptcies.
- (7) What number and percentage of debt agreements have as their sole or principal creditor, the Commissioner of Taxation.
- (8) Do the main provisions for making bankruptcy less of an 'easy option', include; (a) abolition of the early discharge provision entirely (currently permitting early discharge after six months), making the period of bankruptcy a mandatory three year period, and (b) an increase in the income eligibility threshold of Part IX debt agreements from \$32,041 to \$48,061.
- (9) Can he confirm the observation made in the *Bills Digest* that "Many of the measures in the Bill appear to be targeted predominantly at low income earners"; if so, what action does he intend to take to correct this apparent imbalance in the legislation.

- (10) Is he aware of the large number high profile bankruptcy cases, in particular those from the legal profession and ‘captains of industry’; if so, what specific provisions are being made to target; (a) barristers, (b) other legal practitioners, (c) medical practitioners, and (e) directors of ‘phoenix companies’ to address the abuse of serial bankruptcy, debtors petitions, debtor arrangements and other instruments under bankruptcy law, for the sole or substantial purpose of avoiding or evading taxation or otherwise taking debtors’ assets out of the reach of creditors, in particular, the Commissioner of Taxation.

1785 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has he read Discussion Paper 11 of the Final Report of the Royal Commission into the Building and Construction Industry titled “Working Arrangements - Their Effects on Workers’ Entitlements and Public Revenue”; if not, why not.
- (2) Will he reform Australia’s taxation laws to stamp out the abuse of ‘phoenix companies’; if not, why not.
- (3) Will he legislate to provide more severe penalties for the directors of ‘phoenix companies’ who engage in this serial criminal behaviour; if not, why not.

1787 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Further to the Minister’s reply to part (6) of question No. 1170 (*Hansard*, 5 February 2003, page 11058), what evidence has been received by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) regarding the listing of Modafinil on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).
- (2) Is the Minister able to say what evidence is required by the PBAC to enable a recommendation for PBS listing of Modafinil to be made; if so, what is the nature of that evidence; if not, why not.

1788 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a report on page 3 of the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 6 March 2003 by Julie Robotham entitled “Prostate group demands cancer chief’s exit”.
- (2) Is he also aware that the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia has criticised the Chief Executive of the Cancer Council Australia, Professor Alan Coates, for his alleged opposition to a television campaign promoting community awareness of prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests.
- (3) How many: (a) deaths, and (b) diagnosed cases of: (i) prostate cancer, and (ii) breast cancer, are recorded in Australia each year.
- (4) What percentage of: (a) men in Australia in the age group most at risk to develop prostate cancer have had appropriate prostate cancer testing, and (b) women in Australia in the age group most at risk to develop breast cancer have had mammography screening.
- (5) Will the Government conduct a public awareness campaign to; (a) raise specific community knowledge about prostate cancer testing procedures, (b) overcome the barriers to changing men’s behaviour in regard to prostate cancer testing, (c) involve men’s partners in the program, and (d) ensure doctors’ views are up-to-date and evidence based; if so, when will it begin; if not, why not.

1789 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Has he read Discussion Paper 11 of the Final Report of the Royal Commission into the Building and Construction Industry titled “Working Arrangements - Their Effects on Workers’ Entitlements and Public Revenue”; if not, why not.
- (2) Will he reform Australia’s Workplace Relations laws to protect workers’ legitimate entitlements from the criminal behaviour of the directors of ‘phoenix companies’; if so, when; if not, why not.

1791 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Who authorised the use of DIMIA resources for the dissemination on 3 March of partisan material on Iraq to Arabic and other ethnic organisations and on what basis was it decided to do so.
- (2) In deciding to conduct the mail out at taxpayers’ expense what liaison, if any, was there with the Prime Minister’s office and with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.
- (3) On what basis was it determined that the Prime Minister’s speech needed to be translated into Arabic and into Bahasa Indonesian, and not into any other languages.
- (4) Was a Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) contractor used to prepare the Arabic translation; if so, did this contravene the TIS business rules, which state that translations are not to be prepared for other Government agencies; if not, who was the translation prepared by, and how was this person selected.



- (5) Who was responsible for checking the translation before it was sent out by the Minister and why were they unable to establish that the translation was unreadable.
- (6) How many organisations and individuals were sent the faulty translation and how and by whom were they selected.
- (7) How many of those organisations and media outlets who received the translation do not have Arabic speaking staff or mainly use another community language.
- (8) What was the total cost of the exercise, involving 2 separate mail outs of the original and the corrected translation, including translation costs, printing costs, staff time for its dispatch and postal costs.
- (9) Who met these costs and under what Appropriation item were they incurred.

1792 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Is there a plan to restructure the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) and does this restructure involve an amalgamation of offices as opposed to a co-location of Divisional AEC offices.
- (2) If there is to be an amalgamation of offices will this amalgamation; (a) result in (i) a reduction of staff, or (ii) in a reclassification of staff positions, and (b) affect offices in the Hunter and on the Central Coast of New South Wales.

1793 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) How many Divisional returning Officer (DRO) positions; (a) are currently vacant, and (b) have people acting in the position of DRO.
- (2) How many DRO positions does the AEC expect will become vacant over the next 12 months due to retirements and where are these DRO positions located.
- (3) What, if any, are the implications for the Divisional AEC offices in the Hunter and on the Central Coast of NSW.

1794 **MS HALL:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Will the Central Coast Community Legal Centre continue to receive Federal Government funding after 30 June 2003.
- (2) Is there a proposal to reduce that level of funding; if so, by how much will the funding be reduced and for what reason.

### *13 May 2003*

\*1796 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—Can he provide by institution and in 2001 dollars: (a) a table of university operating surpluses for the financial years ending 30 June 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001, and (b) an average of university operating surpluses for those years.

\*1797 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—For each State and Territory, what is the accumulated HECS debt for the years 1995 to 2001.

\*1798 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What is the total amount of funding available under the Systematic Infrastructure Investment Fund (SIIF)?
- (2) What amounts of funding have already been allocated and to what projects.
- (3) What is the total amount of unallocated funds under SIIF.
- (4) Against what criteria will remaining funds be allocated.
- (5) Have guidelines been developed for the allocation of the remaining funds; if not, when will they be developed.
- (6) By what date must all funds under SIIF be expended in full.

\*1799 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) How many public servants worked on the higher education review full- or part-time.
- (2) Over what period of time did each public servant work on the review.
- (3) What was the salary for each public servant who worked on the review.
- (4) What was the total expenditure on travel for each public servant who worked on the review.
- (5) What was the total expenditure on travel for the reference group.
- (6) What were the total sitting costs for the reference group.

(7) What was the total expenditure on postage for the review.

\*1800 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Will he provide a full list, including the date and form of publication, of all reports that have been published (including on the internet) without an accompanying press release since 11 November 2001.
- (2) Who determined that the publication of the Anderson report was a 'routine matter'.
- (3) Who decided that the Anderson report should not be accompanied by a media alert.
- (4) Who is typically responsible for determining whether the publication of a report should be accompanied by a media alert.

\*1801 **MS J. S. MCFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—After the current conflict in Iraq is over, what steps is the Government going to take to: (a) make an unambiguous commitment to the peace, (b) develop a foreign policy for our country, which gives primacy to human rights in the context of our national interests, and (c) commit to a renewed effort to develop international legal rules, which are underpinned by an irreducible commitment to the protection of human rights.

\*1802 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—In December 2002 or early 2003, was one of the civilians doing work for a defence contractor testing F111 wing flexibility at Amberley found to have forged qualifications; if so: (a) what action was taken, and (b) has the matter been referred to the Australian Federal Police or the Queensland Police Service.

\*1803 **MR FORREST:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Will he provide a list of all public water storage reservoirs used in the provision of domestic, commercial and agricultural water supply for the whole of the Australian mainland which includes the following information in respect of each water storage reservoir: (a) the average annual yield for the full period the storage has been in use, (b) the annual yield for the storage for each of the past two years, (c) the predicted yield for the current year, (d) the average annual demand for the full period the storage has been in use, and (e) the current available level of storage as a percentage of its full capacity.

\*1804 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Since the adoption of the Advertising for Motor Vehicles Voluntary Code of Practice, how many formal complaints have been lodged with the Advertising Standards Bureau that relate to breaches of the Code.
- (2) Which specific commercials did they relate to and how long did it take for each complaint to be considered and responded to.
- (3) How many commercials have been deemed to have been in breach of the Code, under which sections of the Code were they deemed to have breached and how long did it take for such commercials to be removed from broadcast.
- (4) What is the process for reviewing advertisements following the lodgement of a formal complaint and what right of appeal does both the complainant and the car manufacturer have in response to a decision of the Advertising Standards Bureau.
- (5) What power does the Advertising Standards Bureau have to enforce a decision to remove an advertisement deemed to be in breach of the Code.
- (6) Has any timeframe been set for the assessment of the effectiveness of the Code in promoting safe driving in the community.

\*1805 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to his answer to question No. 103 (*Hansard*, 26 March 2003, page 13409) in regard to the Roads of National Importance Program, what requests for funding under this program have been submitted by each State and Territory Government in 2002-03.
- (2) What forward priority proposals or indicative priorities have been submitted for the financial years: (a) 2003-04, (b) 2004-05, and (c) 2005-06.
- (3) Which projects in each State and Territory have been brought to the Government's attention through community representations in: (a) 1999-00, (b) 2000-01, (c) 2001-02, and (d) 2002-03, and how many of those projects have received Commonwealth funding.

\*1806 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Does the Government support linking the extension of the Eastern Freeway to Ringwood with the Scoresby Freeway project; if so, why; if not, why not.

- (2) Was the Government consulted about the Bill before the Victorian Parliament to establish the Southern and Eastern Integrated Transport Authority; if so, (a) what was the nature of that consultation, (b) when did it occur, and (c) what will be the Federal Government's involvement in the Authority.
- (3) Is the Federal Government represented on the proposed Authority; if so, in what capacity and by whom; if not, why not.
- (4) In respect of the Scoresby Freeway: (a) how much money has the Federal Government committed in total, (b) how much money has been committed annually over which years, and (c) is the total amount capped; if so, at what level; if not, what is the approval mechanism for additional funds.
- (5) Did the linking of the Eastern Freeway to Ringwood with the Scoresby Freeway project incur, or does it have the potential to incur, additional costs for the Federal Government commitment to road funding in Victoria; if so, what are the details; if not, how is the Federal Government sure that this is the case.
- (6) In respect of the Scoresby Freeway: (a) when is the construction scheduled to commence, (b) what is the expected date of completion of the project, and (c) has the Government been advised of any revised cost estimates for the project by the Victorian Government; if so, (i) when were they advised, (ii) what are the new estimates, and (iii) in which years and/or stage of construction are those additional monies required.
- (7) Is the Government represented on the Mitcham-Frankston (Scoresby Freeway and Eastern Freeway Extension) Community Advisory Group; if so, in what capacity and by whom; if not, why not.
- (8) Does the Group have the right to make recommendations on the associated public transport aspects of the project.
- (9) What is the Victorian Government budget commitment to the Scoresby Freeway project and how has linking that project with the Eastern Freeway Extension impacted on that commitment.
- (10) What process or protections are in place to ensure that the Federal Government does not become liable for additional expenses associated with the Eastern Freeway Extension now that the projects have been joined.

\*1807 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) In respect of the agreement with Qantas to drop frequent flier arrangements for Members of Parliament in return for cheaper airfares as reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 8 February 2002, have the details of this agreement been announced; if so, where; if not, why not.
- (2) If the agreement is not finalised, when will it be completed and what is the cause of the delay; if the agreement is not intended to be finalised, why not and who made that decision.
- (3) Will the agreement save taxpayers \$1 million as reported; if not, what are the projected savings and how were they calculated.
- (4) When will the agreement come into effect.
- (5) Will the agreement also apply to staff travel; if so, what is the expected saving attributable to discounts from Qantas for staff travel.
- (6) Who has been undertaking the negotiations on behalf of the Government and how many meetings have occurred.
- (5) Have meetings been held with any airline(s) other than Qantas to discuss Government discounts or special arrangements; if so, which airlines and what is the detail of any agreed arrangements; if not, why not.

\*1808 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) In respect of the Ministers' powers under subparagraph 33 (2)(b)(ii) of the Migration Act to establish a new type of Special Purpose Visa (SPV) category for crews on vessels and the stipulation that a SPV will only be taken to be held where the SPV or Continuous Voyage Permit (CVP) was granted in circumstances where "the vessel is an international vessel engaged in a pattern of business that takes it outside Australia on a regular basis", which Department is going to monitor that the vessel goes to a place outside Australia and how will it do so.
- (2) Is the definition of "regular basis" weekly, monthly or some other period of time, and which Department will monitor that the vessel is not breaching the conditions.
- (3) What is the definition of a place outside Australia and which ports would be considered outside Australian waters.

- (4) In respect of the requirement that, at the end of a three month period, the ship and crew are required to leave Australian waters to a place outside Australia: (a) what is the time period for Special Purpose Visas to be re-issued, (b) what measures are in place to satisfy DIMIA that the crew members, during the course of the voyage, have gone to a place outside Australia before they are issued with another Special Purpose Visa, and (c) how will his Department monitor cases where crew on Special Purpose Visas on Continuous Voyage Permits are working beyond the three months limit.
- (5) Can he confirm that Special Purpose Visas have not been, or are not being issued beyond the three month period, and how will they be monitored and implemented in conjunction with the Department of Transport and Regional Services.
- (6) What are the fines and penalties, if any, if crew members breach the three month visa condition.

\*1809 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) What was the cost of producing and distributing the school pack of information and resources for Anzac Day 2003, how many packs were distributed and to what organisations other than schools were the packs distributed.
- (2) When did the Government's program 'Saluting Their Service' commence, when will the program expire and how much money has been allocated to the program.
- (3) How many commemorative websites are planned beyond the existing commemorative websites and Australia's wartime history websites, when will they be operating and what is the expected cost of each new website such as the World War II website.

\*1810 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Since 1996, under Remuneration Tribunal Guidelines, which Cabinet Ministers, Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries have had an entitlement for their spouses to travel, both domestically and internationally, beyond that normally available to Members and Senators and what conditions apply for approval of such travel.
- (2) What are the details of travel including destinations, reasons for travel and the itemised cost of travel undertaken by spouses of Cabinet Ministers, Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in this period.

\*1811 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Since March 1996, under Remuneration Tribunal Guidelines, which departmental officers and/or public office-holders have had an entitlement for their spouses to travel, both domestically and internationally, and what conditions apply for approval of such travel.
- (2) What are the details of travel including destinations, reasons for travel and the itemised cost of travel undertaken by spouses of departmental and/or public office-holders in this period.

\*1812 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that construction of a CDMA Tower at the Emergency Management Australia (EMA) site in Mt Macedon commenced without any community consultation; if so, when did the Minister first become aware that the tower was being built.
- (2) Is the Minister aware of the considerable community disquiet regarding the building of this tower.
- (3) What steps will the Minister be taking to ensure that the community of Mt Macedon and every other community in Australia are properly consulted before the building of such towers.

\*1813 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware that construction of a CDMA Tower at the Emergency Management Australia (EMA) site at Mt Macedon commenced in March.
- (2) Does he support the use of the EMA site in Mt Macedon for the construction of a CDMA tower.

\*1814 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) What discussions have taken place to date between Australian and United States authorities on Australia's quarantine system in the context of negotiations on a free trade agreement between the two countries.
- (2) What discussions on Australia's quarantine system occurred between the Australian and United States Government in the period from 1 January 2001 to 14 November 2002.
- (3) What issues were discussed in these talks.
- (4) What changes were made to the quarantine system since 1 January 2001 prior to the beginning of current round of negotiations on the proposed Australia-US free trade agreement in March this year.

- (5) Did Australian and US Government officials reach an agreement to address the US Government's quarantine concerns in September last year; if so, (a) what were the US Government's concerns, and (b) what did the Australian Government agree to do to address them.
  - (6) Did Australia agree to change its quarantine system in any way in response to US Government concerns; if so, (a) what changes were agreed to, and (b) when were these changes implemented or when will they be implemented.
- \*1815 MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) For the last 3 years for which data is available, how many formal complaints were received by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission alleging cases of: (a) racial discrimination, (b) racial vilification and (c) discrimination based on religion or belief.
  - (2) In relation to alleged cases of: (a) racial discrimination and (b) racial vilification, what proportion of complaints were submitted by (i) persons from a non-English speaking background, (ii) Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders and (iii) persons from an English speaking background.
  - (3) In relation of alleged cases of racial vilification, how many complaints were made against the media and, of these, how many involved: (a) commercial radio stations, (b) commercial television stations, (c) public radio and television outlets, (d) community broadcasting stations, (e) mainstream newspapers and (f) ethnic newspapers.
  - (4) Over the same period, how many complaints alleging racial discrimination, racial vilification or religious discrimination: (a) were the subject of attempted conciliation, (b) were successfully resolved and (c) resulted in the payment of damages or another form of compensation to the complainant.
- \*1816 MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) On how many occasions since November 2001 has the Minister appointed someone other than the local Federal Member of Parliament, a Senator representing the State/Territory concerned or a senior officer of his Department to act as the Minister's representative at a ceremony at which Australian citizenship was conferred.
  - (2) In respect of each occasion, what was: (a) the date and venue of the ceremony, and (b) the name and status of the person appointed.
- \*1817 MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Since November 2001, how many persons not holding the position of Mayor of the local Council has the Minister appointed to be the presiding officer at a ceremony at which Australian citizenship was conferred.
  - (2) In respect of each occasion, what was: (a) the name and status of the person, (b) the number of ceremonies the person has presided over, (c) the venue of each citizenship ceremony, (d) the federal electorate and local government area in which the ceremony was held, and (e) the number of people on whom citizenship was conferred.
- \*1818 MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) In each State and Territory, which organisations currently hold contracts under the Accommodation Support element of the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy for: (a) finding, providing and maintaining short-term on-arrival accommodation, and (b) finding longer-term rental accommodation and what are the commencement and conclusion dates for each contract.
  - (2) Did the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) hold industry briefings in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane in August 2002 for organisations interested in tendering for future Accommodation Support contracts for NSW, Victoria (Melbourne) and Queensland (Brisbane).
  - (3) Have formal Requests for Tenders since been issued for each location; if not, what is the reason for the delay and the expected timetable for doing so.
  - (4) Has the Brisbane tender now been finalised; if so, who were the successful tenderer(s); if not, what is the expected timetable for doing so.
  - (5) Did the Request for Tender for the Brisbane contract indicate, at paragraph 3.7.2, that the Central Referral Unit in DIMIA will endeavour to provide service providers with 2-4 weeks notice of impending client arrivals but may at times provide as little as 24 hours notice; if so, what system failures within DIMIA would lead to such inadequate notice being given.
  - (6) How long after arrival are humanitarian and refugee entrants expected to move to longer-term rental accommodation and what financial challenges usually face them in doing so.

- (7) Has the Department taken any specific measures under the program to help lessen the financial challenges facing humanitarian and refugee entrants; if so, what are the details; if not, does it leave it to charitable organisations and State Government agencies to take responsibility for so doing.

\*1819 **MS HALL:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) If there is to be a restructure to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC): (a) what is the rationale for the restructure, and (b) how will it impact on elections and new enrolments.
- (2) Are there any proposals to out-source the enrolment of new electors or any other functions of the AEC.
- (3) Would a restructure have any legal implications.

\*1820 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How much has the current Government spent to date on providing training or assistance to persons wanting to bargain collectively under the Trade Practices Act.
- (2) How was such training or assistance provided.
- (3) How much does the Government plan to spend on providing such training or assistance in future.

\*1821 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) How much has the current Government spent to date on providing training or assistance to employees wanting to bargain collectively under the Workplace Relations Act.
- (2) How was such training or assistance provided.
- (3) How much does the Government plan to spend on providing such training or assistance in future.

\*1822 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—For each State and Territory over the last five calendar years, what was the number of: (a) orders issued against the Construction and General Division of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union under s.127 of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (as an alternative, if the issuance of orders against the Construction and General Division of the CFMEU cannot be ascertained, the number of orders issued against the CFMEU for activities in the building and construction industry), (b) applications to the Federal Court of Australia for enforcement (penalties and/or injunctive relief) pertaining to such orders, and (c) penalties and injunctions issued by the Federal Court of Australia pertaining to such orders and the nature of each of these penalties and injunctions.

\*1823 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Will he provide an update on the current position of Mr David Hicks and Mr Mamdouh Habib and the representations that the Australian Government has made to ensure that they have the opportunity to answer criminal charges brought and prosecuted in accordance with the principles of due process.
- (2) Is he able to say how long the men will be detained before any such charges are brought.

\*1824 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) As part of the process of establishing a free trade agreement between Australia and the United States of America, will there be any Commonwealth structural adjustment programs established (or already in place) to assist firms and their employees that will be disadvantaged or otherwise affected by such a free trade agreement.
- (2) Do such programs already exist; if so, what are the details ie. name, budget, staffing, in which department they are located, the measures used to assist affected firms and their employees, parties consulted (businesses, employees, trade unions, industry associations).
- (3) If such programs do not already exist, will the Commonwealth establish such programs.
- (4) If there are plans to establish such programs, what are the details.
- (5) Is the Commonwealth aware of such programs in the US.
- (6) Have there been discussions about such programs with the US negotiators.

\*1825 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a recent decision by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal which allowed a telecommunications company to install a mobile phone facility on the roof of a Melbourne apartment building without the owners' permission.
- (2) Has his Department obtained advice in respect of the decision; if so, what effect does the decision have on the right of building owners to object to the construction of such facilities on their premises.
- (3) Does the Government intend to legislate in response to the decision.

\*1826 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Prominal, a drug used by epileptics, has been delisted from the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme (PBS); if not, why not.
- (2) Why was Prominal delisted from the PBS.
- (3) Is it the case that other drugs available on the PBS for the treatment of epilepsy can cause serious side effects forcing some people to purchase Prominal without the benefit of the PBS subsidy; if so, was this considered when Prominal was delisted and, if it was not considered, why was it not considered before Prominal was delisted.
- (4) Given the lack of transparency in the process of delisting drugs from the PBS, will the Minister undertake to make the process of delisting drugs from the PBS more accountable and transparent or assure the House that he will give his full support to any steps designed to bring greater accountability to the system.
- (5) Will the Minister ask the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) to reconsider its decision to delist Prominal from the PBS.

\*1827 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Has the Government investigated claims made on the ABC Television program *Four Corners* in 2002 that the Government of the Solomon Islands has entered into an agreement with the Taiwanese Government in which the Solomon Islands is bound to accept and dispose of 500,000 tonnes of toxic waste from Taiwan.
- (2) What is the likely environmental impact of this agreement on the Great Barrier Reef.

\*1828 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Bendigo Gospel Music Festival Inc, the organisation that conducted the 2002 Bendigo Gospel Music Festival, has been placed in voluntary liquidation.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the 2002 Bendigo Gospel Music Festival, which was conducted from 26-28 April 2002, resulted in a substantial loss, with creditors owed more than \$90,000.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the 2002 Bendigo Gospel Music Festival received a grant of \$18,180 in the 13th grant round of the Festivals Australia Programme in October 2001.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that the people behind this incorporated association had conducted two previous private events in Bendigo that also ran at a loss.
- (5) What accountability processes are in place to protect the misuse of public monies.

\*1829 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In respect of the Government's plans to rationalise the shipbuilding industry in Australia, can the Minister advise of any specific plans for the future of the Williamstown shipbuilding yard or plans for the industry that may affect the Williamstown facility's future.
- (2) What are the options currently being considered by the Minister for the future of the industry or specifically the Williamstown shipbuilding yard.
- (3) Will the Minister be making recommendations to Cabinet on the future of any Australian ship building facility.
- (4) What recommendations will he make regarding the Williamstown facility.
- (5) What is the timeframe for any decision by the Government that will affect the future of the Williamstown shipbuilding yard.
- (6) What factors will be taken into account in determining the future of the Williamstown shipbuilding yard.
- (7) Will the Minister ensure the full economic value of the Williamstown shipbuilding facility is properly taken into account in any decision - in particular the skills of the workforce and the access, space and facilities at the yard.
- (8) Will the Minister rule out the consideration of irrelevant factors such as the housing market in residential areas neighbouring the Williamstown shipbuilding facilities.
- (9) Will the Minister undertake to consider the deleterious economic and employment effect on the community in Williamstown and surrounding suburbs, which would arise from the loss of the shipbuilding industry in the area.
- (10) Will the Minister make a commitment to ensure that any decision-making, tender or contract process is open, accountable and subject to public input and consultation.

- (11) Can the Minister give an undertaking that the Government's ownership of the South Australian defence construction facilities will not prejudice the decision-making regarding the Williamstown shipbuilding facility.

\*1830 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has the Australian High Commissioner in Pakistan received any information from Pakistan as to the reasons for their continued detention in Islamabad of Mr Jack Thomas, an Australian citizen; if so, can he provide this information, or an indication of what is contained in this information.
- (2) What charges, if any, might be laid against Mr Thomas by Pakistani authorities.
- (3) Is it the case that the Australian Federal Police has questioned Mr Thomas while he is in detention in Pakistan without the presence of a lawyer; if so, are any charges contemplated as a result of this interrogation.
- (4) Which other Australian agencies have had access to, or have questioned, Mr Thomas while he has been detained in Pakistan.
- (5) Has there been any contact, or representation from, his office to any Ministerial office in Pakistan regarding Mr Thomas; if so, what is the nature of such contact or representations.
- (6) How long is the Government willing to allow Pakistan to hold an Australian national without charge.
- (7) Is Mr Thomas under investigation by Australian authorities; if so, for what.

\*1831 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has consideration been given to Australian accession to the Second Protocol (The Hague 1999) to the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague 1954) since the end of hostilities in Iraq; if so, what was the decision.
- (2) Have consultations been held with Australia's allies, the United States of America and the United Kingdom, concerning their accession to the Second Protocol; if so, what was the outcome.

\*1832 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) When did the United States of America rejoin UNESCO.
- (2) What percentage of UNESCO's budget is the USA assessed to contribute.

\*1833 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Has the Governor-General initiated any kind of legal proceedings or motions in any Australian court during 2003.
- (2) Has the Governor-General initiated any applications for suppression orders with respect to any legal proceedings in any Australian court during 2003.

\*1834 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Treasurer—Since 1 January 2002, on how many occasions have the heads of the following organisations visited Western Australia in their official capacities: (a) the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, (b) the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, (c) the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, (d) the Productivity Commission, (e) the Australian Taxation Office, and (f) the Reserve Bank.

\*1835 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Can he confirm the report in the *Northern Territory News* on 26 March 2003 which states that the former Senator for the Northern Territory, Mr Grant Tambling, has been awarded the position of Chair of a panel reviewing the Commonwealth's renewable energy legislation; if so, (a) what is Mr Tambling's salary, and (b) what monetary or other entitlements are provided to Mr Tambling in the position.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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**SPEAKER'S PANEL**

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

**COMMITTEES**

*Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 40th Parliament*

**Standing**

*Pursuant to standing orders*

**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS:** Mr Wakelin (*Chair*), Mr Cobb, Mrs Draper, Ms Gillard, 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 inquiries:*

Future opportunities for Australia's film, animation, special effects and electronic games industries.

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 inquiries:*

Averment provisions in customs legislation

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.

### Select

**RECENT AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRES** (*Formed 26 March 2003*): Mr Nairn (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Bartlett, Mr Causley, Ms Ellis, Mrs Gash, Mr Gibbons, Mr Hawker, Mr McArthur, Mr Mossfield, Mr G. M. O'Connor, Mr Organ, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Schultz (*To report by 6 November 2003.*)

### 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.

*Current inquiry:*

Cybercrime.

**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:** Ms Gillard, Mrs Hull, Mrs Ley, Mr Secker, Mr Snowdon, 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 Conroy, Senator Humphries, 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:*

Bruce ACT—Redevelopment of the Australian Institute of Sport.

Colombo, Sri Lanka—Construction of a new chancery building for the Australian High Commission.

Darwin, NT—Provision of facilities for collocation and re-equipping of the 1<sup>st</sup> Aviation Regiment at Robertson Barracks.

HMAS Harman, ACT—ACT Multi user depot

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

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

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

Sydney Airport—Fitout of new Customs building.

**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 Snowdon, 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.

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## 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*).