

2002-2003

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 135

MONDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2003

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

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Presentation and statements

- 1 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on the Defence Sub Committee visit to RAAF Williamstown, Darwin Establishments, East Timor and RAAF Tindal, 14-17 July 2003. (*Statements to conclude by 12.40 p.m.*)
- 2 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on the inquiry into local government and cost shifting. (*Statements to conclude by 12.50 p.m.*)
- 3 **NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on the inquiry into governance on Norfolk Island, and report on the review of the annual reports of the Departments of Transport and Regional Services and Environment and Heritage, 2001-2002 (Australia's External Territories): Norfolk Island. (*Statements to conclude by 1 p.m.*)
- 4 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on the proposed revised standing orders. (*Statements to conclude by 1.10 p.m.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices

- †1 **MR RIPOLL:** To move—That this house:
- (1) recognises the contribution of the Royal Australian Air Force to the defence of Australia;
 - (2) recognises and acknowledges the importance of the F111 fleet to the security of Australia and the region and the contribution this aircraft has made to Australia's defence;
 - (3) congratulates the Australian Defence Force Parliamentary Program for giving Members of Parliament greater access and a better working knowledge of the daily operations of our defence forces;
 - (4) congratulates RAAF Base Amberley for the great work it does as a defence base and recognises the expertise of the RAAF personnel working at the base; and
 - (5) recognises the contribution RAAF Base Amberley makes to the city of Ipswich and the community link that has been fostered over many years. (*Notice given 19 August 2003. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time prior to 1.45 p.m.*)
- †2 **MR P. E. KING:** To move—That this House give consideration to a new program of infrastructure development in Australia called "Build the Nation" in cooperation with state and local governments and private enterprise and having regard to:
- (1) the primary obligation of States for the maintenance of public infrastructure; and
 - (2) a reasonable allocation of available resources between city and country areas. (*Notice given 16 October 2003. Time allowed—30 minutes.*)

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

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

†3 **MS HOARE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the development and distribution of the tetanus vaccine in developed countries such as Australia has lead to the virtual elimination of the disease;
- (2) notes tetanus continues to be a major cause of fatalities in many developing countries, with some 100 million people still at risk of contracting the disease;
- (3) calls for measures to be implemented that will lead to the elimination of tetanus in developing countries; and
- (4) recognises the efforts of UNICEF and its programs in attempting to reduce tetanus in communities around the world. (*Notice given 19 August 2003. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time.*)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the day

- 1 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Question—That grievances be noted (*under standing order 106*).
- 2 **STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 18 September 2003*).
- *3 **MEDICAL INDEMNITY AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Melham*).
- *4 **MEDICAL INDEMNITY (IBNR INDEMNITY) CONTRIBUTION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Health and Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Melham*).
- 5 **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*).
- 6 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 5) 2003** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 23 June 2003—Mr Emerson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Slipper—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Cox, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House:*
 - (1) condemns the Howard Government for its lack of fiscal control, having increased both outlays and tax substantially;
 - (2) notes that the Government has also allowed the budget position to materially deteriorate by failing to deliver its own stated objective of a revenue neutral outcome on the Review of Business Taxation and its failure to confront major threats to the revenue through a growing tax avoidance industry including through the use of offshore tax havens; and
 - (3) notes that, as a result of these failures, the Government lacks the capacity to enhance the international competitiveness of Australia’s taxation system, return the full value of bracket creep either through tax cuts or services, provide the health and education services needed by low and middle income Australians, and support the provision of retirement incomes for all Australians.”
- 7 **DEFENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 June 2003 a.m.—Mr Lindsay, in continuation*).
- 8 **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*).
- 9 **BROADCASTING SERVICES AMENDMENT (MEDIA OWNERSHIP) BILL 2002 [NO. 2]** (*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 5 November 2003—Mr Murphy*).
- 10 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (CHOICE IN AWARD COVERAGE) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Hunt, in continuation*).

- 11 **AVIATION TRANSPORT SECURITY BILL 2003** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 27 March 2003—Mr Rudd*).
- 12 **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*).
- 13 **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*).

Notices—*continued*

- 1 **MR ABBOTT:** To move—That standing orders 93, 94 and 399 be suspended for the remainder of this period of sittings, except when a motion is moved pursuant to the applicable standing order by a Minister. (*Notice given 18 June 2003.*)
- 2 **MR ABBOTT:** To move—That, for the remainder of this period of sittings, standing order 45 be amended to read as follows:
When want of quorum noticed, House counted – House adjourned
45 If any Member takes notice that a quorum of Members is not present, the Speaker shall count the House; and, if a quorum is not present within four minutes, the Speaker shall adjourn the House until the next sitting day: Provided that if the Speaker is satisfied there is likely to be a quorum within a reasonable time the Speaker shall announce that he or she will take the Chair at a stated time; but if at that time there is not a quorum the Speaker shall adjourn the House to the next sitting day and provided further that on the second or any subsequent occasion during a sitting day on which any Member takes notice that a quorum is not present the Speaker shall have discretion whether to proceed with business or to count the House. (*Notice given 19 June 2003.*)
- 3 **MR ABBOTT:** To move—That standing order 399 be suspended for the remainder of this period of sittings, except when a motion is moved pursuant to the standing order by a Minister. (*Notice given 18 June 2003.*)

Orders of the day—*continued*

- 14 **DESIGNS BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 December 2002—Mr Cox*).
- 15 **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*).
- 16 **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*).
- 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 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (AWARD SIMPLIFICATION) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 November 2002—Mr Melham*).
- 19 **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*).
- 20 **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*).
- 21 **CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2003** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 15 May 2003—Mr Melham*).
- 22 **POSTAL SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2003—Mr Swan*).

- 23 **CIVIL AVIATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (MUTUAL RECOGNITION WITH NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 June 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 24 **HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT AMENDMENT (ABOLITION OF COMPULSORY UP-FRONT STUDENT UNION FEES) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 September 2003—Mr Griffin*).
- 25 **INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Foreign Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 15 October 2003—Mr Cox*).
- 26 **SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT (FURTHER SIMPLIFICATION) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Children and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 16 October 2003—Ms Macklin*).
- *27 **BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Emerson*).
- *28 **BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Emerson*).
- *29 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT) BILL 2002 [NO. 2]** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Emerson*).
- *30 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (BETTER BARGAINING) BILL 2003** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Emerson*).
- 31 **HEALTH AND AGEING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 26 June 2003*).
- 32 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM) BILL 2003** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 15 September 2003*).
- 33 **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”.
- 34 **RENEWABLE ENERGY (ELECTRICITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2002**: Consideration of Senate’s amendments (*from 13 December 2002, a.m.*).
- 35 **GOVERNOR-GENERAL**: Consideration of Senate’s message No. 258 (*from 15 May 2003*).
- 36 **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS—REPORT ON INTEGRITY OF THE ELECTORAL ROLE—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 16 October 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.

- 37 **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS—REPORT ON THE 2001 ELECTION—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 October 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 38 **ALBURY-WODONGA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—REPORT FOR 2002-03—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 October 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 39 **OPERATION OF THE AGED CARE ACT 1997—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 October 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 40 **CRIMES ACT 1914 PART 1AB CONTROLLED OPERATIONS—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 October 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 41 **BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT BILL 2003—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 September 2003—Mr Abbott*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 42 **NATIONAL SAFE SCHOOLS FRAMEWORK—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 September 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Tuckey—That the House take note of the paper.
- 43 **RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA—REPORT FOR 2002-2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 September 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 44 **QUARTERLY REPORT ON MOVEMENT CAP FOR SYDNEY AIRPORT APRIL TO JUNE 2003—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 September 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 45 **DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE—PAPER—APEC: AUSTRALIA'S INDIVIDUAL ACTION PLAN 2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 September 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 46 **AGREEMENT DONE AT TOWNSVILLE ON 24 JULY 2003 BETWEEN SOLOMON ISLANDS, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, FIJI, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, SAMOA AND TONGA—TREATY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 September 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 47 **OFFICE OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY REGULATOR—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 21 August 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 48 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—49TH REPORT—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 August 2003—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 49 **STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 40(3) ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION ACT 1989—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 August 2003—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Ruddock—That the House take note of the paper.
- 50 **INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR OUTREACH SERVICES LEGISLATION—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 12 August 2003—Mr M. J. Ferguson*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 51 **MURRAY-DARLING BASIN COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 12 August 2003—Mr M. J. Ferguson*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 52 **LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE ENFORCEMENT OF COPYRIGHT IN AUSTRALIA—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 53 **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES JOINT AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.

- 54 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO REPORT 48—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 55 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO REPORT 50—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the paper.
- 56 **AUSTRALIAN RIVER CO. LTD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 June 2003—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Jackie Kelly—That the House take note of the paper.
- 57 **PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS PRICING AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 June 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 58 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE—REPORT ON PREMIUM INCREASES FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH 2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 June 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 59 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS INTERCEPTION ACT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 June 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 60 **AUSTRALIAN MARITIME COLLEGE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 June 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 61 **AUSTRALIAN LAND TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 4 June 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 62 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORTS—FROM PHANTOM TO FORCE: TOWARDS A MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE ARMY—A MODEL FOR A NEW ARMY: COMMUNITY COMMENTS ON ‘FROM PHANTOM TO FORCE’ PARLIAMENTARY REPORT INTO THE ARMY—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 June 2003—Mr Swan*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 63 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION CONVENTIONS NOS 83, 85 AND 86—TREATIES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 May 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 64 **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING—HIGHER EDUCATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 May 2003—Mr Latham*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 65 **REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE COLLAPSE OF HIH INSURANCE—VOLUMES I-III—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 May 2003—Ms Roxon*) on the motion of Mr Williams—That the House take note of the paper.
- 66 **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.
- 67 **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.
- 68 **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.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.

71 TARIFF PROPOSALS (*Mr Slipper*):

- 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. 3 (2003)—*moved 25 June 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Cox*).
- Customs Tariff Proposal No. 4 (2003)—*moved 25 June 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Cox*).
- Customs Tariff Proposal No. 5 (2003)—*moved 17 September 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Sidebottom*).
- Customs Tariff Proposal No. 6 (2003)—*moved 16 October 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Ms Macklin*).
- 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*).
- Excise Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2003)—*moved 25 June 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Cox*).
- Excise Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2003)—*moved 25 June 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Cox*).
- Excise Tariff Proposal No. 3 (2003)—*moved 25 June 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Cox*).
- Excise Tariff Proposal No. 4 (2003)—*moved 17 September 2003*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Sidebottom*).

72 PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS BROADCASTING AMENDMENT BILL 2002: Second reading (*from 12 February 2002*).**Contingent notices of motion**

- Contingent on any bill being brought in and read a first time:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the second reading being made an order of the day for a later hour.
- Contingent on any report relating to a bill being received from the Main Committee:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.
- Contingent on any bill being agreed to at the conclusion of the consideration in detail stage:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the motion for the third reading being moved without delay.
- Contingent on any message being received from the Senate transmitting any bill for concurrence:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the bill being passed through all its stages without delay.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS—*continued*
Orders of the day

- 1 PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SESSIONAL ORDER 344—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 June 2003—Mrs May, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs May—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 24 November 2003.*)
- 2 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE 2003 NEW ZEALAND COMMITTEE EXCHANGE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 June 2003—Mr Scott, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Scott—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 24 November 2003.*)
- 3 ELECTORAL MATTERS—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE 2001 ELECTION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 June 2003—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 2 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 4 SCIENCE AND INNOVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE COMMITMENT OF AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 June 2003—Mr Nairn, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Nairn—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 24 November 2003.*)

- 5 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—52ND REPORT—SINGAPORE AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AND OTHER TREATIES TABLED IN MARCH 2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2003—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 6 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2003—Mr Sercombe, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Sercombe—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 7 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE CONDUCT OF DIVISIONS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 August 2003—Mrs May, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs May—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 8 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—53RD REPORT—TREATIES TABLED IN MAY AND JUNE 2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 August 2003—Ms J. I. Bishop, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 9 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE DRAFT FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 20 August 2003—Mr Charles, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Charles—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 10 **INDUSTRY AND RESOURCES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON IMPEDIMENTS TO INCREASING INVESTMENT IN MINERALS AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION IN AUSTRALIA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 September 2003—Mr Prosser, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Prosser—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 11 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE REPORT FOR 2001-2002—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 October 2003—Mr Scott, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Scott—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 12 **NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE INQUIRY INTO PAY PARKING IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ZONE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 October 2003—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 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 13 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE INQUIRY INTO THE ADEQUACY OF PROCEDURES FOR EXAMINING ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 October 2003—Mrs May, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs May—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 14 **ASIO, ASIS AND DSD—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF AGENCY SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 October 2003—Mr Jull, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Jull—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 15 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON TREATIES TABLED ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2003—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 October 2003—Mr Wilkie, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Wilkie—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

- 16 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO EAST TIMOR—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 November 2003—Mr Adams, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Adams—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 3 November 2003.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—continued

Notices given for Monday, 24 November 2003

- *1 **MR ZAHRA:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000* for local input into decision making relating to renewable energy developments. (*Local Community Input into Renewable Energy Developments Bill 2003*)
- *2 **MS C. F. KING:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Flags Act 1953* to recognise the Eureka Flag as an official flag of Australia, and for related purposes. (*Flags Amendment (Eureka Flag) Bill 2003*)

Notices—continued

- 1 **MR ORGAN:** To move—That in light of the Indonesian military action in Aceh and increasing concern in the Australian community that an humanitarian crisis similar to that witnessed in East Timor is in the making, this House calls on the Government to:
- (1) make provision for immediate humanitarian relief to those civilians who are now without food, shelter and access to medical assistance;
 - (2) urge the Indonesian Government to revoke the imposition of martial law in Aceh, and to pull troops back to a defensive position;
 - (3) call on the Indonesian Government to return to the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) process, and to resume a dialogue in pursuit of a political solution to the problem in Aceh;
 - (4) urge the Indonesian Government to allow the involvement of a third party (preferably a United Nations special envoy) to mediate in future dialogue;
 - (5) offer a temporary safe haven to those who are already displaced and whose lives are under immediate threat by the actions of the Indonesian security forces; and
 - (6) urge the Indonesian Government to guarantee that international norms and conventions on the protection of civilians in war will be strictly adhered to, and to ensure that the Indonesian Government remains accountable for the actions of their security forces deployed in Aceh. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)
- 2 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges:
 - (a) the need for leadership role models for young people across a diversity of fields and professions and that the role of teachers in the education system is imperative in achieving this objective;
 - (b) that healthy vibrant town centres, well resourced with youth facilities such as libraries, entertainment facilities, community facilities and accessible transport, ensure positive youth participation in the community;
 - (c) that social and peer pressure add to the challenges that today's youth face, which can often lead to depression and youth suicide; and
 - (d) the difficulties faced by students forced to juggle work and academic participation in relation to wages, exploitation and time management; and
 - (2) urges the Government to:
 - (a) encourage the promotion of positive role models, both male and female, to inspire and lead the expanding youth population of the Western Sydney region;
 - (b) increase its focus on urban development and planning to aid the growing needs of today's youth;
 - (c) make available a variety of options to address the important issue of depression and youth suicide; and
 - (d) promote youth participation by encouraging the establishment of a wider range of forums for young people to be able to voice their concerns and that these forums should involve all levels of

government and the community. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

3 MR PRICE: To move—

- (1) That standing order 28B be amended by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (b):
 - (*ba*) annual and additional estimates contained in the appropriation bills presented to the House shall stand referred for consideration by Members of the relevant committee (as determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) for the consideration of annual reports), and, for the purposes of this consideration:
 - (i) six Members of each committee, determined by the committee in each case, shall consider the estimates;
 - (ii) the Members of the committee selected to consider the estimates shall meet with Members of the relevant Senate legislation committee so that the Members and Senators may meet together for the purposes of considering the estimates;
 - (iii) members of the relevant House and Senate committees, when meeting together to consider estimates, shall choose a Member or a Senator to chair the joint meetings;
 - (iv) the provisions of Senate standing order 26 shall, to the extent that they are applicable, apply to the consideration of estimates under this paragraph; and
 - (v) that, upon the completion of joint meetings at which evidence is received or written answers or additional information considered, it shall then be a matter for the Members of the relevant committee to consider the terms of any report to the House on the estimates.
- (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

4 MR PRICE: To move—

- (1) That a Standing Committee on Appropriations and Staffing be appointed to inquire into:
 - (a) proposals for the annual estimates and the additional estimates for the House of Representatives;
 - (b) proposals to vary the staff structure of the House of Representatives, and staffing and recruitment policies; and
 - (c) such other matters as are referred to it by the House;
- (2) That the committee shall:
 - (a) in relation to estimates—
 - (i) determine the amounts for inclusion in the parliamentary appropriation bills for the annual and the additional appropriations; and
 - (ii) report to the House upon its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill; and
 - (b) in relation to staffing—
 - (i) make recommendations to the Speaker; and
 - (ii) report to the House on its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill;
- (3) That the committee consist of the Speaker and 11 other members, 6 members to be nominated by the Chief Government Whip or Whips and 5 members to be nominated by the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips or any independent Member;
- (4) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair;
- (5) That the committee elect a deputy chairman who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chairman at that meeting;
- (6) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine;
- (7) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;

- (8) That the quorum of a subcommittee be a majority of the members of that subcommittee;
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;
- (10) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records;
- (11) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place;
- (12) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House;
- (13) That the committee have leave to report from time to time; and
- (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

5 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 94 to read as follows:

Closure of Member

94 A motion may be made that a Member who is speaking, except a Member giving a notice of motion or formally moving the terms of a motion allowed under the standing orders or speaking to a motion of dissent (from any ruling of the Speaker under standing order 100), “be not further heard”, and such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

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

Presentation of petitions

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

- (a) in respect of each petition, the petitioner, or one of the petitioners, may present the petition to the House by standing at the Bar of the House and reading to the House the prayer of the petition, and
- (b) where a petitioner is not able to present the petition in accordance with paragraph (a) of this standing order, the Member who has lodged the petition may present it to the House by reading to the House the prayer of the petition. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

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

Questions to committee chairs

143A Questions may be put to a Member in his or her capacity as Chair of a committee of the House, or of a joint committee, in connection with the work or duties of the committee in question. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

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

Questions without notice—Time limits

145A During question time:

- (a) the asking of each question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each question may not exceed 4 minutes;
- (b) the asking of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute; and
- (c) the time taken to make and determine points of order is not to be regarded as part of the time for questions and answers. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

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

Questions from citizens

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

- (b) Notice of a question given under this standing order may show the name of the person who has proposed the question.
- (c) A Member may not give more than 25 notices of questions under this sessional order in a calendar year.
- (d) Nothing in this standing order may be taken to mean that a Member must give notice of a question proposed to the Member by a person who lives in the Member's electoral division. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

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

- (1) refers to the Standing Committee on Procedure the draft Framework of Ethical Principles for Members and Senators and the draft Framework of Ethical Principles for Ministers and Presiding Officers dated 1995;
- (2) seeks advice from the Procedure Committee as to the continuing validity or otherwise of the drafts; and
- (3) requests the Procedure Committee to confer with the Procedure Committee of the Senate in its consideration of these matters. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

11 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 145 be omitted and the following standing orders be adopted:

145A The answer to a question without notice shall be relevant and:

- (a) shall be concise and confined to the subject matter of the question;
- (b) shall relate to public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected, to proceedings in the House, or to any other matter of administration for which the Minister is responsible; and
- (c) shall not debate the subject to which the question refers.

145B The standing orders that apply to the asking of a question without notice shall generally apply to the answer.

145C An answer to a question on notice shall be relevant to the question and shall be provided to the Member who asked the question within 30 days. (*Notice given 29 May 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on 24 November 2003.*)

12 **MS C. F. KING:** To move—That this House notes that:

- (1) 18 August is the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and Vietnam Veterans Day;
- (2) following the Battle of Long Tan in 1966, the South Vietnamese Government decided to award gallantry award medals to several members of D Company and also a Unit Citation to the Company;
- (3) at the last minute the then Australian Government requested that they not be awarded and the soldiers were instead given dolls and cigarette cases;
- (4) that approval to have the awards presented was to be sought at a later date; and
- (5) as the Minister for Veterans Affairs has the authority to approve the wearing of these awards, and given that sufficient documented evidence exists to support such a decision, that approval should be granted. (*Notice given 19 June 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

13 **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 15 September 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

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

- (1) recognises that feral pigs pose a threat to the nation due to their impact on the welfare of livestock, damage to the environment and natural biodiversity, and potential to harbour exotic animal diseases and zoonoses;

- (2) notes estimates that the population of feral pigs in Australia could be as high as 23 million; and
- (3) calls on the Government to develop a nationally coordinated approach to the feral pig issue. (*Notice given 16 September 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 15 **MR KERR:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises that smoking tobacco products is the single largest cause of preventable death in Australia;
- (2) is of the opinion that it is inappropriate that public policy be, or be thought to be, influenced by donations made by tobacco companies;
- (3) acknowledges that any political party that unilaterally declines to accept donations from the tobacco industry risks disadvantaging itself;
- (4) expresses its opinion that it is reasonable on health and public policy grounds to effectively discourage political parties from accepting donations from the tobacco industry; and
- (5) accordingly supports the principle that it be a condition of eligibility to receive public funding under the Electoral Act that a political party not accept any donations from the tobacco industry. (*Notice given 7 October 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 16 **MR DANBY:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that Monday, 13 October 2003 is the 160th anniversary of the founding of B'nai B'rith;
- (2) notes that B'nai B'rith is the largest Jewish community service organisation in the world today with branches in 51 countries including Australia and holds NGO consultative status at the United Nations, UNESCO and the UN Commission on Human Rights;
- (3) notes that for 160 years B'nai B'rith has provided continuing support and assistance to both Jewish and non-Jewish people in Australia and throughout the world, particularly those in need or sick, the aged and people suffering persecution;
- (4) notes that B'nai B'rith continues to promote the ideals and principles of peace, philanthropy, support for science and the arts, relief from suffering and the advancement of humankind; and
- (5) congratulates B'nai B'rith on its 160th anniversary. (*Notice given 13 October 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 17 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing orders 142 and 151 be amended as follows:

Questions to Ministers

142 Questions may be put to a Minister relating to public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected, to proceedings pending in the House, or to any matter of administration for which the Minister is responsible.

- (a) Questions may be in writing and placed on the Notice Paper for written reply.
- (b) Questions may be asked orally without notice for immediate reply and 10 questions may be asked by non-Government Members and 10 by Government Members.

Questions without notice—Supplementary questions

151 Supplementary questions may be asked to elucidate and answer.

- (a) One or more supplementary questions may be asked for each question except that:
- (b) No more than 4 supplementary questions in total may be asked by Government Members and no more than 4 supplementary questions in total may be asked by non-Government Members at question time. (*Notice given 16 October 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

- 18 **MR BEVIS:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes with grave concern the detention of two Australian citizens, Mr David Hicks and Mr Mamdouh Habib at Guantanamo Bay Cuba by the United States administration;
- (2) notes that even the worst war criminals from Nazi Germany were afforded a full court hearing open to public scrutiny;
- (3) notes that David Hicks and Mamdouh Habib have received only very limited access to legal advice;
- (4) notes that David Hicks and Mamdouh Habib have been denied access to their families;

- (5) notes that David Hicks and Mamdouh Habib have been denied natural justice and are being held at the sole discretion of the President of the United States of America in whatever circumstances he deems fit; and
- (6) calls on the President of the United States of America either to lay charges immediately against these Australians to be heard in an open court of law or release them for return to Australia where any legal proceedings can be pursued in accordance with Australian law. (*Notice given 24 October 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

19 **MR BEVIS:** To move—That:

- (1) the House, noting that all Members and Senators are required to make declarations of relevant interests and those of their spouses and dependent children, and believing that it would be in the public interest for members of the Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery (FPPG) (including broadcast and press journalists and those who write or present news and or current affair items but not camera crew, sound technicians or other support staff) to make similar declarations, resolves that, within 28 days of being issued with a photographic pass enabling a person to have access to Parliament House as a member of the FPPG, the person must provide to the Serjeant-at-Arms or the Usher of the Black Rod a statement of:
 - (i) the person's registrable interests, and
 - (ii) the registrable interests of which the person is aware (a) of the person's spouse and (b) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the person for support,
 in accordance with resolutions adopted by the House and the Senate and in a form determined by the Presiding Officers from time to time, and shall also notify any alteration of those interests to the Serjeant-at-Arms or the Usher of the Black Rod within 28 days of that alteration occurring.
- (2) the statement of registrable interests to be provided by a person shall include the registrable interests of which the person is aware (1) of the person's spouse and (2) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the person for support, and shall cover the following matters:
 - (a) shareholdings in public and private companies (including holding companies) indicating the name of the company or companies;
 - (b) family and business trusts and nominee companies—
 - (i) in which a beneficial interest is held, indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and beneficial interest, and
 - (ii) in which the person, the person's spouse, or a child who is wholly or mainly dependent on the person for support, is a trustee (but not including a trustee of an estate where no beneficial interest is held by the person, the person's spouse or dependent children), indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and the beneficiary of the trust;
 - (c) real estate, including the location (suburb or area only) and the purpose for which it is owned;
 - (d) registered directorships of companies;
 - (e) partnerships indicating the nature of the interests and the activities of the partnership;
 - (f) liabilities indicating the nature of the liability and the creditor concerned;
 - (g) the nature of any bonds, debentures and like investments;
 - (h) saving or investment accounts, indicating their nature and the name of the bank or other institutions concerned;
 - (i) the nature of any other assets (excluding household and personal effects) each valued at over \$7500;
 - (j) the nature of any other substantial sources of income;
 - (k) gifts valued at more than \$750 received from official sources, or at more than \$300 where received from other than official sources provided that a gift received by the person, the person's spouse or dependant children from family members or personal friends in a purely personal capacity need not be registered unless the person judges that an appearance of conflict of interest may be seen to exist;
 - (l) any sponsored travel or hospitality received where the value of the sponsored travel or hospitality exceeds \$300;
 - (m) membership of any organisation where a conflict of interest with the person's duties could foreseeably arise or be seen to arise; and

- (n) any other interests where a conflict of interest with the person's duties could foreseeably arise or be seen to arise.
 - (3) the Presiding Officers make arrangements for copies of declarations of interest made under this resolution to be made available for inspection by any interested person.
 - (4) the Presiding Officers may order the cancellation of the Parliament House pass of a person to whom this resolution applies if that person has:
 - (a) knowingly failed to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Serjeant-at-Arms or the Usher of the Black Rod by the due-date;
 - (b) knowingly failed to notify any alteration of those interests to the Serjeant-at-Arms or the Usher of the Black Rod within 28 days of the change occurring, or
 - (c) knowingly provided false or misleading information to the Serjeant-at-Arms or the Usher of the Black Rod.
 - (5) the Presiding Officers must consult with representatives of the FPPG on the implementation and operation of these requirements.
 - (6) a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly. (*Notice given 24 October 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 20 **MR HAWKER:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the respect accorded to all Australian Prime Ministers when they visit other countries, including the United States of America;
 - (2) notes the courteous and dignified manner in which the President of the United States of America, the Honourable George W. Bush, conducted himself during the joint meeting of the House and the Senate on 23 October;
 - (3) acknowledges the courteous and respectful way in which the overwhelming majority of Members and Senators participated in the proceedings;
 - (4) deplores any disorderly and/or offensive behaviour by a Member or Senator towards any guest of the Australian Parliament. (*Notice given 3 November 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 21 **MR CADMAN:** To move—That this House calls on the Coalition in Iraq, the international community and the United Nations to ensure that:
- (1) Assyrians will be constitutionally recognised as the indigenous people of Iraq;
 - (2) all Assyrians who have been forced to take refuge outside of Iraq during the last century and who, or whose descendants, are residing outside of Iraq are granted dual citizenship;
 - (3) Assyrians will be entitled to proper representation and participation in all levels of government;
 - (4) Assyrians will be constitutionally guaranteed the right to freely exercise their customs, religion, language and traditions;
 - (5) the homes, lands and property of all Assyrians (not limited to those presently living in Iraq) previously confiscated and forcefully removed from the Assyrians will be returned;
 - (6) all Assyrians previously forced to leave Iraq will have the right to return to their ancestral and ancient homeland;
 - (7) all Assyrian antiquities and museums are placed in the care and ownership of Assyrians with all income generated therefrom used for the protection of Assyrian history; and
 - (8) the current designation of the eighteen provinces that include the provinces of Nineveh (Ninawa) and Dohuk is maintained. (*Notice given 4 November 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 22 **MS GAMBARO:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises that franchising in Australia contributes \$80 billion to the Australian economy and represents 12% of GDP;
 - (2) acknowledges the mandatory code of conduct in franchising and its support in the sector;
 - (3) acknowledges that franchising forms an important part of small business and offers new entrants greater security than stand alone businesses;
 - (4) recognises the importance franchising plays in the export earnings of this country; and

- (5) recognises that franchising has over 50,000 workplaces and employs more than 500,000 Australians. (*Notice given 4 November 2003. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

Orders of the day

- 1 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (HEZBOLLAH EXTERNAL TERRORIST ORGANISATION) BILL 2003** (*Mr Crean*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 2 June 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 24 November 2003.*)
- 2 **PROSTATE CANCER**: Resumption of debate (*from 2 June 2003—Ms O'Byrne, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Lloyd—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 24 November 2003.*)
- 3 **TAX SYSTEM**: Resumption of debate (*from 2 June 2003*) on the motion of Mr B. P. J. O'Connor—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% and 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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 24 November 2003.*)
- 4 **SCORESBY FREEWAY**: Resumption of debate (*from 2 June 2003*) on the motion of Mr Barresi—That this House:
 - (1) recognises:
 - (a) the importance of the Scoresby Freeway to the people of the East and Southeast of Melbourne and the Federal Government's continued commitment to this project; and
 - (b) the inclusion of funding for the Commonwealth's share of project costs as agreed with the Victorian Government in the 2003-2004 Federal Budget;
 - (2) takes note of:
 - (a) the conditions contained in the Memorandum of Understanding and the obligations on the Victorian Government to comply with the agreement;
 - (b) the payment of funds by the Commonwealth to the Victorian Government under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding; and
 - (c) reports that the Victorian Government was seeking support for tolls on the Scoresby Freeway while publicly claiming to be committed to the toll-free condition of the Federal Government funding;

- (3) condemns:
- (a) the Victorian Bracks Government for lying to the Victorian people about supporting a toll-free Scoresby Freeway prior to the last State election; and
 - (b) ALP members of the Victorian Parliament elected under false pretences by communities in the East and Southeast of Melbourne by misleading the people they claim to represent; and
- (4) calls on:
- (a) the Bracks ALP Government in Victoria to honour the binding agreement and deliver a completed toll-free Scoresby Freeway by 2008 as promised to the people of the Eastern and Southeastern suburbs of Melbourne;
 - (b) all Victorian Federal and State Members of Parliament to support the honouring of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments; and
 - (c) the Victorian Government to release all documents relating to tolls on the Scoresby Freeway and Eastern Freeway Extension from the time the Scoresby Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Transport Ministers. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on 24 November 2003.*)
- 5 COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL AMENDMENT (REPRESENTATION OF TERRITORIES) BILL 2003** (*Mr Tollner*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 16 June 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 24 November 2003.*)
- 6 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (GOOD FAITH BARGAINING) BILL 2003** (*Mr McClelland*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 16 June 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 24 November 2003.*)
- 7 WESTERN HIGHWAY:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 June 2003*) on the motion of Ms C. F. King—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). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 24 November 2003.*)
- 8 CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 June 2003—Mrs Hull, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms Hoare—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 24 November 2003.*)
- 9 FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE USA:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 June 2003*) on the motion of Mr Baird—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 24 November 2003.*)
- 10 **WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN VIETNAM:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 June 2003—Ms Gambaro, in continuation*) on the motion of Mrs Irwin—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on the next sitting Monday after 24 November 2003.*)
- 11 **IRAQ:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 June 2003*) on the motion of Mrs Moylan—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the suffering and hardship experienced by the Iraqi people from years of neglect of essential services and the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein;
 - (2) notes the grave consequences of this neglect to human health, contributing to the second highest infant and child mortality rates in a list of some of the poorest countries in the world;
 - (3) notes the consequent poor state of essential services in Baghdad and other areas of Iraq and commends the efforts of the coalition, the United Nations and non-government organisations to provide emergency services to the people of Iraq;
 - (4) notes the major ongoing challenges facing the people of Iraq including the need for continued rehabilitation of essential services such as sewerage and sanitation and notes that a major effort is underway to improve these services;
 - (5) commends the Australian Government for the substantial contribution to humanitarian aid and reconstruction in Iraq, notably in relation to agriculture, where Australia is taking the lead with the United States;
 - (6) notes that Australia's contribution of \$100 million is the 5th highest of the 15 main contributing countries; and
 - (7) acknowledges the contribution of AusAid and Australian non-government organisations in the delivery of health services, water and sanitation work, co-ordination and logistics, food distribution, refugee preparedness and mine action and agriculture. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 12 **AGED CARE:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 June 2003—Ms Jackson, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms Hall—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 2 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

- 13 **MORTGAGE FINANCE:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 August 2003*) on the motion of Mr P. E. King—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 14 **AUSTRALIAN MARITIME COLLEGE:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 August 2003*) on the motion of Ms O'Byrne—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 15 **FILM INDUSTRY:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 August 2003—Mr Sawford, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Baird—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 16 **DENTAL HEALTH:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 August 2003*) on the motion of Ms George—That this House:
- (1) notes that people from poorer socio-economic backgrounds commonly experience barriers to accessing dental health care;
 - (2) recognise the adverse impact of the abolition of the Commonwealth Dental Health Program on people who cannot afford private dental care;
 - (3) recognises that poor dental health has implications for other medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, respiratory disease and cancer; and
 - (4) recognises that dental health is a matter that warrants the intervention of the Federal Government. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 17 **OCEAN OUTFALLS:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 August 2003—Mr Lloyd, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hunt—That this House:
- (1) deplores the damaging and destructive environmental impact of 142 ocean outfalls throughout Australia which are dumping treated and untreated sewage on our coastlines;
 - (2) notes the associated risks to human health, sustainable aquaculture and fisheries from the dumping of sewage into our coastal areas;
 - (3) condemns the annual waste of over 1.5 trillion litres of water throughout Australia resulting from the practice of dumping waste water rather than reusing it;
 - (4) calls upon the States to commit to the goal of ending all ocean outfall in Australia by the year 2025 and to adopt policies to achieve that goal;
 - (5) calls upon all local water boards to commit to the goal of ending all ocean outfall in Australia by the end of 2025 and to adopt policies to achieve that goal; and
 - (6) calls upon the Federal Government to assist the States by helping coordinate a National Ocean Outfall Strategy aimed at coordinating the ending of all ocean outfall in Australia by the year 2025. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 3 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

- 18 **PROTECTION OF AUSTRALIAN FLAGS (DESECRATION OF THE FLAG) BILL 2003:** (*Mrs Draper*) Second reading (*from 18 August 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 19 **ABOLITION OF THE GOLD TRAVEL PASS FOR FORMER POLITICIANS (REFLECTING COMMUNITY STANDARDS) BILL 2003:** (*Mr Organ*) Second reading (*from 18 August 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 20 **AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP FOR ELIGIBLE DE FACTO SPOUSES BILL 2003:** (*Ms Plibersek*) Second reading (*from 18 August 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 21 **CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BILL 2003:** (*Mr Crean*) Second reading (*from 18 August 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 22 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (UNFAIR DISMISSAL—LOWER COSTS, SIMPLER PROCEDURES) BILL 2003:** (*Mr Crean*) Second reading (*from 18 August 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 23 **TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT (PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE) BILL 2003:** (*Mr Griffin*) Second reading (*from 18 August 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 24 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (A SIMPLER BUSINESS ACTIVITY STATEMENT) BILL 2003:** (*Mr Latham*) Second reading (*from 18 August 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 25 **MIDDLE EAST ROAD MAP TO PEACE:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 August 2003*) on the motion of Mr Cadman—That this House:
- (1) commends the Israeli Cabinet for its decision to take positive steps for the resolution of conflict in the Middle East, including the adoption of the Road Map which is:
 - Phase 1 (to May 2003): End of terrorism, normalisation of Palestinian life and Palestinian political reform; Israeli withdrawal and end of settlement activity; Palestinian elections;
 - Phase 2 (June-Dec 2003): Creation of an independent Palestinian state; international conference and international monitoring of compliance with roadmap;
 - Phase 3 (2004-2005): Second international conference; permanent status agreement and end of conflict; agreement on final borders, Jerusalem, refugees and settlements; Arab states to agree to peace deals with Israel; and
 - (2) calls on all parties involved in the conflict to emulate this example and move forward to a rapid settlement. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 26 **CHILDREN WITH INSULIN DEPENDENT DIABETES:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 August 2003*) on the motion of Mr C. P. Thompson—That this House notes:
- (1) the number of children in Australia who have insulin dependent diabetes;
 - (2) the devastating long-term health consequences and medical complications for children with insulin dependent diabetes, including:
 - (a) hypoglycemia;
 - (b) heart disease;
 - (c) microvascular disease;
 - (d) limb amputation;
 - (e) kidney failure; and
 - (f) retinopathy or diabetic eye disease;
 - (3) the outstanding work by Australian researchers to find a cure through pancreatic islet cell transplantation;
 - (4) that research is the key to finding a transplant procedure that is safe and available to children; and
 - (5) the need for support from the Federal Government to establish:
 - (a) a national clinical islet cell transplant centre to advance islet cell transplantation; and

- (b) a research grant to attract the world's best scientists and ensure Australia's position at the forefront of global research. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 27 **SYDNEY'S SECOND AIRPORT:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 August 2003—Mr Farmer, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Murphy— That this House:
- (1) declares that Badgery's Creek is no longer a viable site for the location of a second airport for the people of Sydney; and
 - (2) recommends that a Joint Select Committee be established to identify a site suitable for the location of Sydney's second airport, having regard to (a) aircraft noise; (b) air pollution and (c) other risks associated with aircraft movements. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 4 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 28 **PARLIAMENTARY (CHOICE OF SUPERANNUATION) BILL 2003** (*Mr Andren*): Second reading (*from 8 September 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 29 **ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 September 2003—Ms Hall, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms Livermore— That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the 75th anniversary this year of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS);
 - (2) congratulates the RFDS for providing essential emergency and primary health care to the people of remote, rural and regional Australia since its establishment in 1928;
 - (3) thanks the doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, pilots, mechanics, support staff, volunteers and fundraisers for their commitment to continuing the life-saving work of the RFDS; and
 - (4) notes with concern the difficulty in recruiting and retaining health professionals in remote, rural and regional Australia that threatens to impact on the services provided by the RFDS. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 30 **AUSTRALIAN KNOWLEDGE OF ASIA:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 September 2003—Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, in continuation*) on the motion of Dr Southcott— 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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 31 **AVIATION:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 September 2003*) on the motion of Mr M. J. Ferguson— That this House:
- (1) acknowledges that 2003 marks the celebration of 100 years of piloted flight;
 - (2) notes the Wright Brothers' achievement in successfully undertaking the first flight as the culmination of a centuries' old quest by philosophers, scientists and engineers to turn the dream of flight into a reality that redefined the boundaries of scientific capacity;
 - (3) notes that, in the 100 years since the first piloted flight, the outstanding development in air travel has taken us from the Wright Brothers' Kitty Hawk flight to the Moon;
 - (4) recognises that the invention, growth and refinement of piloted flight has allowed us to cross and expand our boundaries, both personal, cultural, economic and national, enriching our experiences and bringing people of the world closer together;
 - (5) notes that the aviation industry has also fostered inter and intra State and Territory trade, commerce and experiences;
 - (6) recognises the importance of the aviation industry to Australian jobs, skills and industry, in particular, to the tourism, aeronautical, technical, engineering, and export industries;
 - (7) acknowledges the aviation industry as an important provider of high skilled jobs to Australians;
 - (8) notes with disappointment the collapse of Ansett Airlines and recognises the valuable role that Ansett played in the development of the aviation industry in Australia;

- (9) notes proudly that Qantas is an Australian icon, recognised throughout the world and one of Australia's largest private sector employers;
 - (10) welcomes the newer players in Australia like Virginblue and Regional Express and recognises the important contribution of regional airlines and operators to our regional communities;
 - (11) acknowledges the work, enterprise, innovation, ingenuity, commitment, passion and enthusiasm of all those who have worked in aviation over the past one hundred years;
 - (12) pays its respects to all those who have died in the pursuit of work and recreation in aviation;
 - (13) notes the negative effect of the terrorist attacks of September 11 on the global aviation and associated industries and expresses our hope that the industry will recover;
 - (14) notes the vital need for Federal Government efforts to ensure that airline passengers can travel in the safest possible environment, in particular now Australia is a terrorist target, to restore confidence in air travel; and
 - (15) notes the importance of a competitive and sustainable local aviation industry. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 32 **FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH CHINA AND JAPAN:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 September 2003—Mr Jenkins, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hunt—That this House:
- (1) supports the development of bilateral free trade agreements with both China and Japan;
 - (2) acknowledges the close partnership that Australia has developed with both Japan and China;
 - (3) notes the importance of trade with Japan, Australia's principal trading partner;
 - (4) notes the importance of rapidly growing trade with China which has a real annual growth rate of 7 per cent;
 - (5) acknowledges the massive economic and social benefits of a genuine free trade agreement with both China and Japan to all parties;
 - (6) realises that the ASEAN Free Trade Area, the proposed China-ASEAN FTA and Japan's proposal for a comprehensive regional economic partnership reflect the fact that China and Japan recognise that free and open trade is the best guarantee of economic prosperity and growth;
 - (7) commits to an international free trade agenda understanding that bilateral free trade agreements can complement and encourage wider free trade objectives in APEC and the WTO;
 - (8) forcefully supports an international free trade agenda as a driver for global economic prosperity, improved living standards and greater opportunities for the developing world; and
 - (9) commends the efforts of Japan and China to enhance global free trade, in particular, China's efforts to reduce average tariff rates from 40 per cent a decade ago to 11.5 per cent today. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 33 **OSTEOPOROSIS:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 September 2003*) on the motion of Ms Burke—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 34 **FEDERAL MAGISTRATES SERVICE:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 September 2003—Ms Hoare, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Johnson—That this House:

- (1) recognises the success of the Federal Magistrates Service since its establishment by the Commonwealth Government in 2000;
 - (2) In particular, recognises the contribution of the Federal Magistrates Service to:
 - (a) providing a quick and accessible forum for litigants involved in less complex family law and other general federal law disputes;
 - (b) increasing access to justice for Australian families, particularly those going through relationship breakdown; and
 - (c) providing an alternative and less formal court option for litigants and encouraging the use of conciliation, counselling, arbitration and mediation in appropriate cases; and
 - (3) notes the Government's recent announcement that four new Federal Magistrates are to be appointed in South-east Queensland, Newcastle, Adelaide and Melbourne to further enhance the operation of the Federal Magistrates Service. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 35 **NORTH KOREA:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 October 2003—Mr Organ, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Cadman—That this House:
- (1) condemns the abuse of human rights in North Korea and the unconscionable treatment by that government of its citizens;
 - (2) calls on the Government of North Korea to comply with international standards to reform conditions for its citizens;
 - (3) urges the DPRK to engage more fully with the international community to address Australia's and the international community's concerns over border crossers in North Korea and notes Australian support for further scrutiny by the UN Commission on Human Rights of the human rights situation in the DPRK; and
 - (4) calls on the North Korean regime to cease and desist from any development of weapons of mass destruction. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 36 **INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 October 2003*) on the motion of Mr Sidebottom—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the importance of 17 October 2003 being the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty;
 - (2) is deeply concerned about the 1.2 billion people world-wide who are required to live on less than \$1 per day, and the adverse effects on health, education, and income earning ability which result;
 - (3) supports efforts by the United Nations to reduce world poverty through the development of its Millennium Development Goals, which call for:
 - (a) halving the proportion of people living on \$1 per day and halving the number of people who suffer from hunger;
 - (b) ensuring that boys and girls alike complete primary schooling;
 - (c) eliminating gender disparity in all levels of education;
 - (d) reducing by two-thirds the under-five mortality rate;
 - (e) reducing by three-quarters the maternal mortality ratio;
 - (f) reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other major infectious diseases;
 - (g) ensuring environmental sustainability through integration of sustainable development into country policies and reversing the loss of environmental resources, halving the proportion of people without access to potable water and significantly improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers; and
 - (h) developing a global partnership for development through raising official development assistance, expanding market access, and encouraging debt sustainability; and
 - (4) calls on all national governments and international institutions to make achievement of the Millennium Development Goals a key purpose of their international and domestic programs. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 37 **BALI BOMBING:** Resumption of debate (*from 13 October 2003—Mr B. P. J. O'Connor, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Baird—That this House commends the efforts of the Indonesian Government in bringing justice to those who were responsible for the Bali bombing and, in particular:

- (1) applauds Indonesia in formally charging 24 people in connection with the Bali bombing and the conviction of 5 of those people;
 - (2) congratulates the Indonesian police and Australian Federal Police in the rapid dismantling of the cell that carried out the attack on 12 October 2002;
 - (3) recognises and commends the Australian Federal Police for the significant role it has played in helping the Indonesian police bring these terrorists to trial; and
 - (4) commends the Government on the \$10 million package of assistance for counter-terrorism capability building. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 38 **COMMONWEALTH LAND AT POINT NEPEAN, VICTORIA BILL 2003:** (*Mr K. J. Thomson*) Second reading (*from 3 November 2003*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 39 **RAAF CONTINGENT UBON:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 November 2003*) on the motion of Mr Baldwin—That this House:
- (1) notes the efforts of the personnel of the RAAF Contingent Ubon who served in Thailand during the Vietnam War;
 - (2) acknowledges that these personnel were assigned to provide support operations in Ubon post-June 1965 by the Joint Planning Committee Report 110/1964;
 - (3) acknowledges this directly affected the Vietnam War in that they provided air and ground defence of the Royal Thai Air Force Base and all assets and installations the United States Air Force (USAF) collocated on the base whilst the USAF 8th Tactical Fighter Wing undertook combat operations into North Vietnam and Laos;
 - (4) acknowledges that the RAAF 79(F) Squadron were on “Alert 5” status and provided CAP operations in Ubon;
 - (5) acknowledges that whilst the RAAF servicemen were assigned to the command and control of the USAF 7th Air Force in Vietnam, they remained under Australian control; and
 - (6) recognises the efforts of those who served in Ubon by the way of the award of the Vietnam Logistic and Support Medal (VLSM) to be worn by the amendment of the “Area of Operations” for the Vietnam War effort and by the amendment of the regulations governing the issue of the VLSM. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 40 **HEPATITIS C:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 November 2003*) on the motion of Ms George—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges that hepatitis C is the most frequently reported notifiable disease in Australia with about 240,000 people infected and an additional 16,000 new infections each year;
 - (2) recognises that hepatitis C poses a substantial threat to the health of Australians, due to the failure of the Government to fund the implementation of the National Hepatitis C Strategy; and
 - (3) calls upon the Government to fund the implementation of the National Hepatitis C Strategy in order to:
 - (a) reduce the transmission of hepatitis C;
 - (b) improve access to hepatitis C treatments;
 - (c) support and resource programmes which maintain and promote the health, care and support of people with hepatitis C; and
 - (d) prevent discrimination and reduce the stigma and isolation of those infected with hepatitis C. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)
- 41 **TRANSPORT AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 November 2003*) on the motion of Mr Price—That this House:
- (1) understands that Australians want decisions made on the basis of good policy and what is best for communities, not what suits the electoral pendulum;
 - (2) affirms the need for an integrated approach to transport and urban development policy to tackle issues associated with the growth of our major cities;
 - (3) recognises that cities need integrated transport and urban development policies involving all tiers of government and the community in the decision making process;

- (4) accepts that Labor has lead the way on these important issues with the announcement of an integrated transport plan for Sydney; and
- (5) recognises that:
 - (a) Labor will not build an airport at Badgery's Creek, nor will Labor sell the Sydney Basin airports in a cash grab that ignores community and aviation industry views;
 - (b) Labor understands that the growth ambitions of Sydney Airport are not acceptable and that a second Sydney airport is required; and
 - (c) Badgery's Creek remains the Coalition's preferred site choice for a second Sydney airport. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

42 **WEST PAPUAN REFUGEES:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 November 2003—Mr Causley, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms C. F. King—That this House:

- (1) notes the Report of the January 2003 Joint Mission of the Australian Section of the International Commission of Jurists and the Australian Council for Refugees to Papua New Guinea, *Seeking Refuge: the Status of West Papuans in Papua New Guinea*; and
- (2) calls on the Australian Government to endorse the Report's recommendations and, in consequence;
 - (a) negotiate an agreement with Papua New Guinea for the recognition of travel documents based on certificates of identity for the purpose of enabling students to enter Australia to pursue educational courses;
 - (b) provide humanitarian relief through AusAID or other appropriate agencies for those West Papuans in Transmitter Camp found to have refugee status;
 - (c) express its willingness to assist the government of Papua New Guinea to implement a long term solution for the West Papuans in Western Province;
 - (d) express its willingness to contribute to support and to provide aid funding to enable Papua New Guinea to put a plan in place to act as an incentive to those West Papuans to move from border camps; and
 - (e) provide places for West Papuans found to be refugees in Australia's resettlement programs. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 24 November 2003.*)

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

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

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

BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the day

- 1 **SECTION 57 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 October 2003—Mr Lloyd*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 2 **AGE DISCRIMINATION BILL 2003** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 6 November 2003—Mr Baldwin*) on the motion of Mr Williams—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr McClelland, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for failing to ensure that federal age discrimination legislation contains the best standards of protection of older Australians, a failure which is consistent with its neglect of the human rights of all Australians, as evidenced by its introduction of legislation to weaken the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and other actions to wind back protections for Australian citizens”.*
- 3 **AGE DISCRIMINATION (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2003** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 June 2003—Ms Ellis*).
- 4 **ABORIGINAL LAND GRANT (JERVIS BAY TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL 2003** (*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 September 2003—Ms Roxon*).
- 5 **ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALI TRAGEDY—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 October 2003—Mr Bartlett*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 6 **SOLOMON ISLANDS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 19 August 2003—Mrs Elson*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 7 **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.
- 8 **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*).

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Orders of the day

- 1 **RECENT AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRES—SELECT COMMITTEE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 5 November 2003—Mr Nairn, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Nairn—That the House take note of the report.
- 2 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON EXPANDING AUSTRALIA’S TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL EUROPE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 September 2003—Mrs Hull*) on the motion of Mr Baird—That the House take note of the report.
- 3 **EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON INQUIRY INTO ASPECTS OF AUSTRALIA’S WORKERS’ COMPENSATION SCHEMES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 September 2003—Dr Southcott*) on the motion of Mrs D. M. Kelly—That the House take note of the report.
- 4 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 September 2003—Mr Prosser*) on the motion of Mrs Hull—That the House take note of the report.



QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

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

13 February 2002

- 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.

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.

19 August 2002

- 685 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answers to questions No. 2259 (*Hansard*, 23 May 2001, page 26950) and No. 327 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4978) concerning the cost of wines and liquor for Kirribilli House and The Lodge, since Mr. Peter Bourne was appointed as a wine consultant (a) on what dates were purchases of liquor made for Kirribilli House and The Lodge and (b) what sum was spent on each occasion.
- 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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

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

10 February 2003

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.

12 February 2003

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.

13 February 2003

MS GRIERSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1491 - 1493)—

- (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.

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

3 March 2003

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.

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.

5 March 2003

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...".

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

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.

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.

18 March 2003

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.

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.

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.

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. 1691 - 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.

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

20 March 2003

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.

13 May 2003

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.

1811 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (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.

15 May 2003

1884 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Commissioner of Taxation received a letter from the President of the New South Wales Bar Association referenced 01/120 and dated 9 February 2001.
- (2) Did that letter express concern regarding the divulging of information by certain officers of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) regarding certain Bar Association members' taxation obligations.
- (3) Was information divulged to the media; if so, under what authority.
- (4) Does the letter say, in part, "I (the then NSW Bar Association President) made it clear... the Association was prepared to work with the ATO to inform barristers of potential tax problems" and later "Regrettably they have never come back to the Association...".
- (5) Is it a fact that (a) in 1997 the NSW Bar Association unsuccessfully petitioned the Legal Services Commissioner about Mr Thomas Harrison, and (b) in 1999 the NSW Bar Association successfully

petitioned the Supreme Court to strike out Mr Stirling Hamman; if so, did the ATO notify any breaches of tax laws by either of these two former barristers to the NSW Bar Association.

- (6) Is there an existing protocol or procedure for the ATO to notify the Bar Associations in each jurisdiction upon the discovery of a barrister's breach of taxation laws so that the Bar Association may commence action under the Legal Profession Act (NSW), or its equivalent in the other jurisdictions; if not, why not.
- (7) Is there an existing protocol or procedure for a Bar Association to notify the ATO upon the discovery of a barrister's breach of taxation laws so that the ATO may consider prosecution; if not, why not.
- (8) Is it the case that the ATO gave information on the taxation affairs of Mr Thomas Harrison and Mr Stirling Hamman to the media and that this information was not provided to the Bar Association despite its repeated requests for this information; if so, why did the ATO give this information to the Media (namely Mr Paul Barry of *The Sydney Morning Herald*), rather than to the NSW Bar Association.
- (9) Can he confirm whether the Association's letter to the Commissioner of Taxation dated 9 February 2001 contained the statement "This Association views with grave concern the fact that the ATO is apparently more prepared to deal with the media than this association".

1885 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Can he confirm whether the Commissioner of Taxation replied to the President of the NSW Bar Association's letter dated 9 February 2001, on 14 February 2001, to the effect that "...the ATO has not disclosed information about individual barristers to Mr Paul Barry".
- (2) Has the ATO disclosed any information to Mr Paul Barry of *The Sydney Morning Herald*; if so, (a) what was that information, and (b) will he make it public; if not, why not.
- (3) Can he confirm that the letter from the Commissioner says: "As you would be aware, our understanding of our secrecy and privacy obligations under the law is that we cannot provide you details of individual cases for the purpose of considering whether to bring proceedings against a barrister for professional misconduct".
- (4) Does the Commissioner recommend that the NSW Bar Association "consider being more specific as to what conduct would, under the Bar Rules, constitute professional misconduct"; if so, how would this clarification affect the Commissioner's assertion that information about particular barristers is precluded from release under privacy and secrecy laws.
- (5) If no relationship between clarifying rules of professional conduct under the Bar Rules and privacy and secrecy law exists, then will he call upon the Commissioner of Taxation to explain what his policy on release of information is; if so, when; if not, why not.

26 May 2003

1894 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the number of (a) general practitioners, and (b) specialists in the electoral division of Throsby in (i) 1996, (ii) 2000, and (iii) currently.
- (2) What was the ratio per 1000 of population of (a) general practitioners, and (b) specialists in the electoral division of Throsby in (i) 1996, (ii) 2000, and (iii) currently.
- (3) What is the number and percentage of (a) general practitioners, and (b) specialists in the electoral division of Throsby that bulk billed in (i) 1996, (ii) 2000, and (iii) currently.

1896 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware of a letter sent by the NSW Bar Association to the Commissioner of Taxation dated 16 December 2002 titled 'Tax-delinquent Barristers and Statutory Secrecy' (Reference 01/120).
- (2) Did paragraph 21 of that letter ask the questions: (a) "how was it possible for such delinquency to continue so long", and (b) "does our system impose excessive requirements of secrecy in relation to taxation affairs".
- (3) Has the Taxation Commissioner responded to these questions; if so, what was his response; if not, why not, and when will he respond.
- (4) What action is he taking to address the serious policy failure identified by the two questions posed by the NSW Bar Association to the Taxation Commissioner.

27 May 2003

1943 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) In respect of the inquest into the death of the Mohammed Yousef Saleh at Hollywood Private Hospital, Monash Avenue, Nedlands, why was key documentation on the detention of Mohammed Yousef Saleh prior to his death not made available by his department to the Coroner investigating the death.
- (2) Why was it not possible to provide the Coroner with any explanation of how and why documentation was not available to the inquest.
- (3) Has the relevant documentation now been located; if so, has it been forwarded to the Coroner, if not, why not.
- (4) Has there been an investigation into why key documentation was missing and unavailable to the Coroner; if so, (a) who conducted it, and (b) will he table its findings in the Parliament; if not, why not; if there not been an investigation (c) why not, and (d) will he now establish an investigation and report its findings to the Parliament; if not, why not.
- (5) Has any process been undertaken to identify actions to change or improve procedures for record keeping following this case; if so, (a) what is that process, (b) what are the actions identified, and (c) have they already been implemented in full; if not, why not.
- (6) Will he table all documents relating to the disappearance of the documents on the detention of Mohammed Yousef Saleh prior to his death and relating to efforts to locate these documents.

28 May 2003

1948 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the Attorney General's reply to question No. 1417 (*Hansard*, 26 May 2003, page 14643) what is the total number of investigations being undertaken by the Australian Taxation Office in relation to the taxation affairs of barristers and solicitors.
- (2) What percentage of these investigations relate to the employment of (a) family law and/or bankruptcy, and (b) failure to lodge tax returns.

1950 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the reply by the Attorney-General to question No. 1463 (*Hansard*, 26 May 2003, page 14645) does he intend to 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 members of the legal professions who are serial bankrupts; if so, when; if not, why not.

2 June 2003

MR LATHAM: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1978 - 1979)—Has he attended meetings with leaders or representatives of (a) the United States of America, (b) the United Kingdom, or (c) the United Nations at which estimates of the number of civilian casualties in the war on Iraq were discussed; if so, what are the details of the meetings and the estimates of the number of casualties.

1979 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

3 June 2003

1981 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Have there been any deaths resulting from activities of the Army Alpine Club; if so, (a) how many, (b) where, and (c) when.
- (2) Was a Board of Inquiry (BOI) constituted to inquire into the death of Sapper Andrew John Morrison; if so, (a) when, (b) who constituted the BOI, (c) who was the appointing Authority, (d) what were the Terms of Reference, (e) how many days has the BOI sat, (f) when is the BOI expected to deliver its final report, and (g) will the report be made public.
- (3) Did the National Park authorities conduct their own investigations into the death of Sapper Andrew John Morrison; if so, when was the report made available to the next of kin.
- (4) Did the USA authorities conduct a coronial inquiry; if so, (a) when, (b) when were the next of kin advised, (c) were the next of kin given the opportunity to attend the US coronial inquiry; if not, why not, and (d) did anyone attend the coronial Inquiry on behalf of the ADF; if not, why not.
- (5) Has it taken 2 years for the next of kin to have been informed of the injuries that led to Sapper Morrison's death; if so, why.

- (6) How many submissions have been made to the BOI seeking the evidence of the eight American eyewitnesses to the accident and when were they made.
- (7) Why has that evidence not been produced over two and a half years later.
- (8) What are the matters that the President of the BOI has ruled beyond the scope of its Terms of Reference.
- (9) Have the next of kin been offered legal representation consistent with recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade in its report into Military Justice Procedures.
- (10) To date, has this BOI cost \$2 million and what are the individual costs, emoluments and disbursements involved in the BOI.
- (11) What is the anticipated final cost of the BOI.

1989 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) In respect of the Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) record kept by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) and, in particular, “Dealings Not Involving Intentional Release (DNIR)” licence GMAC 5607 entitled “The use of virus vectors for gene silencing in plants (Virus Induced Gene Silencing)”, (a) did the dealings referred to require a permit from the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS); if not why not, (b) were any persons or organisations named in the permit; if so, who, (c) from where were the named viral substances imported, and (d) were the conditions under which the licence was granted adhered to.
- (2) In relation to recent outbreaks of exotic plant diseases at and near agricultural research facilities, (a) are plants at Australian wheat breeding research stations, and in nearby wheat crops, regularly surveyed for their disease status by competent plant pathologists; if not, why not, and (b) were any of the areas at which the Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus was recently found last surveyed by a competent plant pathologist prior to the recent outbreak; if so, (i) when, and (ii) was the Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus found during such surveys; if not, why not.
- (3) What systems and protocols are in place to ensure national preparedness for detecting quarantine breakdown or bioterrorism affecting the nation’s most important crops.
- (4) Why have these systems and protocols not worked in the case of Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus, and more recently, Broom Rust Fungus.

1992 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Further to his reply to parts 1(f) and 3 of question No. 1110 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 151), for how many of the following successful interventions were applications previously considered under s.417 on (a) one, (b) two, and (c) three or more prior occasions: (i) the 79 interventions out of 947 in 1996/97, (ii) the 55 interventions out of 3,122 in 1997/98, (iii) the 154 interventions out of 3,838 in 1998/99, (iv) the 179 interventions out of 4,100 in 1999/00, (v) the 260 interventions out of 2,306 in 2000/01, and (vi) the 199 interventions out of 3,309 in 2001/02.
- (2) In respect of each of those matters, how many of these interventions were successful by satisfying him on the following Ministerial Guideline criteria: (a) 4.2.1 – Significant threat to that person’s security, human rights etc, (b) 4.2.2 – Substantial grounds for believing a person may be in danger of being subject to torture etc in contravention of the Convention Against Torture, (c) 4.2.3 – Circumstances that may bring Australia’s obligations as a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, (d) 4.2.4 – Circumstances that may bring Australia’s obligations as a signatory to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, (e) 4.2.5 – Circumstances that the legislation could not have anticipated, (f) 4.2.6 – Clearly unintended consequences of legislation, (g) 4.2.7 – Intended, but in the particular circumstances, particularly unfair or unreasonable consequences of legislation, (h) 4.2.8 – Strong compassionate circumstances etc such that failure to recognise them would cause irreparable harm ... to an Australian family unit, (i) 4.2.9 – Exceptional economic, scientific, cultural or other benefit to Australia, (j) 4.2.10 – Length of time that person has been in Australia, (k) 4.2.11 – The age of the person, and (l) 4.2.12 – The health and psychological state of the person.

4 June 2003

2000 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many detainees at the Curtin Detention Centre have had their applications to the Refugee Review Tribunal refused in the last 24 months.

- (2) For each instance, can he say (a) what was the date of the determination, (b) what was the date the determination was conveyed to the detainee, and (c) whether the detainee was able to access legal advice by (i) phone, (ii) post, and (iii) in person.
- (3) Is it the case that when detainees have filled in forms to initiate Federal Court Appeals (without access to legal advice) and posted them in the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs box on site within days of being notified of such decisions, that these documents were not forwarded in time to comply with the mandatory 28 day appeal period so that the detainee was denied legitimate access to the appeal process.

5 June 2003

2010 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What special levies does the Government impose on the vegetable growing industry, how big are these levies and what are they used for.
- (2) What returns do hydroponic vegetable growers receive on the levies.
- (3) Has the Government considered exempting hydroponic vegetable growers from these levies; if so, what are the details.

16 June 2003

2015 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many temporary protection visa holders are there in (a) Australia, and (b) in each federal electorate.
- (2) Which countries do they come from.
- (3) How many (a) men, and (b) women are from each country.
- (4) How many are aged (a) 0-11, (b) 12-18, (c) 19-25, (d) 26-50, and (e) over 50 years.
- (5) How many temporary protection visas will expire (a) by 30 June 2003, (b) by 31 December 2003, (c) during 2004, and (d) during 2005.

2017 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Is it the case that a student who is in receipt of a scholarship to cover the cost of fees faces a reduction in Youth Allowance payments because the scholarship is regarded as income; if so, why.
- (2) Is it an anomaly that students in this situation are penalised financially by reductions to their Centrelink benefits.
- (3) In the electoral division of Hasluck, how many students, or their families, have had their Centrelink payments reduced because the student receives a scholarship and, for each case, is the Minister able to say (a) the type of scholarship received, and (b) the amount of any reduction in Centrelink payments.
- (4) Will the Minister consider amending the *Social Security Act 1991*, to ensure that scholarships are not classified as a 'valuable contribution' under that act; if not, why not.

2020 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1565 (*Hansard*, 15 May 2003, page 14537) concerning the operation of Airservices Australia during industrial action, what were the contingency arrangements that were confirmed as obligatory in the advice from the Office of Legal Council and can a copy of that legal advice be provided.
- (2) What were the findings of each of the four investigations conducted by Airservices Australia into incidents that occurred during the industrial action and can a copy of the reports be provided.

2021 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How many (a) ministerial staff, (b) Department of the Environment and Heritage staff, (c) staff of other Departments, and (d) Australian Greenhouse Office staff travelled with him to the United States to promote the "climate action partnership" between Australia and the United States.
- (2) How long did the trip take.
- (3) What was the total cost to taxpayers of the trip.
- (4) Who did he and other members of the delegation meet during the trip.
- (5) What was the outcome of the trip.

2022 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Has the Government been approached by Energy SA requesting an increase in the funding allocation for the Renewable Remote Power Generation Program in order to meet the growing demand from pastoralists who wish to install a photovoltaic energy system on their properties.
- (2) Is he aware that Mr Andrew Pobke of Arcoona Station near Woomera has applied unsuccessfully four times for funding to promote renewable energy as reported in the *Adelaide Advertiser* on 4 June 2003.
- (3) Is the Government taking any action to meet these requests.

2023 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What are the current management arrangements for Calperum Station.
- (2) Is it the case that the current contractual arrangements for the management of Calperum Station expired on 30 April 2003.
- (3) What process has the Director of National Parks, as holder of the Deed of Assignment to the station, instituted to ensure ongoing felicitous, transparent, and accountable management of the station.
- (4) Will community representation form a part of the ongoing management of the station.

2024 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can he detail the amount of funding contributed by the Commonwealth Government to the McCormick Centre for the Environment.
- (2) Can he detail the number of functions and events hosted by the McCormick Centre since its official opening in September 2002.
- (3) What has been the level of patronage of the McCormick Centre since its official opening.
- (4) Has a tourism plan been established for the McCormick Centre and the adjoining Chaffey Learning Exchange.

17 June 2003

2028 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) In respect of allegations that a pregnant detainee from Villawood detention centre gave birth in Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, can he advise if allegations that she was handcuffed throughout her labour and for the delivery of the child/children are in any way correct.
- (2) Can he advise when the woman in question gave birth.
- (3) Can he advise who else was with the woman during the labour.
- (4) Can he advise whether the woman's husband/partner/support person of her choice was allowed to be present.
- (5) Is it specified in the Immigration Detention Standards that ACM staff accompany the detainee at all times, including during labour; if so, (a) what is the reason for this, and (b) do the Standards specify that a female officer should undertake this duty.
- (6) Do the Immigration Detention Standards specify what category of ACM staff should accompany the detainee, that is, guards or other staff.
- (7) Can he advise from where and how the woman was transported to the hospital.
- (8) Was she handcuffed or in any way restrained during the transportation.
- (9) What is the woman's current immigration status.

18 June 2003

MR B. P. O'CONNOR: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2034 - 2035)—

- (1) Will the Government ensure that media, entertainment and arts industries are explicitly excluded from future free trade agreement negotiations including the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).
- (2) Will the Government refuse any claim from negotiating nations that Australia's local content protections or constraints on media ownership constitute an unfair trade advantage in any future free trade agreement.
- (3) What steps will the Government be taking to ensure that diversity in media content will be protected and further nourished in any future free trade agreement.

2035 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

19 June 2003

2047 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many personal intervention requests under section 417 of the Immigration Act has he received in (a) 2001, (b) 2002 and (c) 2003.
- (2) How many of these were granted a visa through his personal intervention after the (a) first, (b) second, and (c) third or any subsequent attempts.
- (3) In those cases, what new information was given that ultimately convinced him to intervene.
- (4) From which federal electoral divisions did the requests for ministerial intervention come and which were successful.
- (5) In how many of these cases did the request for ministerial intervention come from a Federal Government Minister's office and in how many of these cases was a visa granted following ministerial intervention.

23 June 2003

2059 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to his reply to question No. 1714 (*Hansard*, 16 June 2003, page 15727) and question No. 2038, in respect of the people who have been made bankrupt on (a) four, (b) five, (c) six, (d) seven, (e) eight, (f) nine, (g) ten, (h) eleven, and (i) twelve occasions, what are their occupations and how many people are there in each occupational group.

25 June 2003

2069 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he aware that a meeting was held in Parliament House on Thursday, 15 May 2003 between Airservices Australia and Members representing electorates affected by Sydney Airport.
- (2) Can he say whether the meeting was convened by Senator Marise Payne in her capacity as Chair of the Sydney Airport Community Forum.
- (3) Has he been informed that the Members were unanimous in their opposition to the consolidation of the Sydney Terminal Control Unit in Melbourne.
- (4) Will he respond to this community opinion by directing Airservices Australia to drop this proposal.

2071 **MR WINDSOR:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What action will he take in response to the issues raised in the editorial in *Taxpayers Australia* on 28 April 2003 that posed the question “Has the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) become a law unto itself”.
- (2) What action is the ATO taking in response to the Federal Court's decision on *Essenbourne Pty Ltd v Commissioner of Taxation* [2002] and can he explain the implications of this action.
- (3) Is the Australian Taxation Office ignoring the Federal Court's decision on the Essenbourne employee incentive trust scheme case by pursuing taxpayers who have been involved in similar employee incentive trust schemes; if not, will he explain why; if so, will he intervene to direct the ATO to treat all taxpayers in similar circumstances in a manner consistent with the Court's decision and in light of the concerns expressed in the *Taxpayers Australia* editorial.

2074 **MR WINDSOR:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs —

- (1) How many school-aged children have been detained in each of the detention centres during the past year.
- (2) How many children in each of the detention centres did not receive full-time education.
- (3) How many of the children in each of the detention centres regularly attended public schools outside the centres.
- (4) Where education was provided within the detention centres, (a) were the hours provided comparable to those provided in public schools in that State, (b) what were the qualifications of the teachers, and (c) were the facilities and materials available comparable to those in public schools in that State.
- (5) What evidence can he provide to demonstrate that Australia is meeting its educational obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

11 August 2003

- 2137 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) How many Telstra exchanges are (a) not presently compatible with ADSL and (b) what proportion of subscribers are affected.
 - (2) What is the likely timetable for Telstra to ensure that all exchanges have access to ADSL services.
- 2142 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Does he recall the Prime Minister stating on 8 July 2003 that David Hicks had admitted training with Al Qaeda.
 - (2) In respect of this admission (a) to whom, (b) on what date, and (c) where was it made.
 - (3) Was this admission made orally or in writing.
 - (4) Does the Australian Government possess a written statement containing the admission.
 - (5) When and how was this admission communicated to the Australian Government.
 - (6) Is the Australian Government satisfied that the admission would be admissible in an Australian court under the *Commonwealth Evidence Act 1995*.
 - (7) When and how was David Hicks' family informed of this admission.
 - (8) When and how were David Hicks' legal representatives informed of this admission.
- 2154 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Would the Minister update the information provided in his answer to question No. 864 of 28 August 2002.
- MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2155 - 2170)—
- (1) What programs have been introduced, continued or renewed by the Minister's Department in the electoral division of Barton since March 1996.
 - (2) What grants and or benefits have been provided to individuals, businesses and organisations by the Minister's Department in the electoral division of Barton since 1996.
- 2156 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 2161 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 2166 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 2169 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- 2171 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Attorney-General—Was Ms Maureen Shelley's position at the Office of Film and Literature Classification publicly advertised and subject to public and objective selection processes; if not, why not.
- 2176 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) In respect of the review of research biosecurity protocols and processes at Australia's plant breeding research institutions, does the review panel include a competent practising independent plant virologist; if not, why not.
 - (2) In respect of the identity of the two strains of Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus recently found in Australia, (a) where was each strain found, (b) to which publicly reported Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus isolate is each of the Australian strains most closely related, and (c) does any information indicate when and how each strain of the virus may have breached the nation's quarantine barriers; if so, would he provide that information.
- 2177 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of reports, including the report 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 the Minister 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 the Minister able to say whether money from individuals, corporations or charities in Australia is 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) Is the Minister aware 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 the Minister able to say whether any money from individuals, corporations or charities in Australia is going to the Assembly.

2180 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Are the organisations known as Kach and Kahane Chai regarded as derivative organisations of the listed terrorist organisation Hizballah External Security Organisation.
- (2) Are these organisations known to be active in Australia.

2190 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answers to question Nos 1724, (*Hansard*, 15 May 2003, page 14540), 2056 (*Hansard*, 11 August 2003, page 18086) and 2058 (*Hansard*, 12 August 2003, page 18185), does the *Airports Act 1996* preclude the inclusion of the following instruments into the airport-lessee company's assessment of environmental issues: (a) all relevant New South Wales environmental planning instruments and binding clauses, and (b) the Long Term Operating Plan, if not, why not.
- (2) Does the Act direct how the airport-lessee company should plan for dealing with the environmental issues which flow from the assessment of those environmental issues, if so, which parts of the Act apply and how do they operate.

12 August 2003

2192 **MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Since March 1998 how many individuals have been formally investigated by his department following allegations that they have been providing immigration assistance to visa applicants while not being a registered migration agent.
- (2) How many such cases were subsequently referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for possible prosecution.
- (3) How many cases remain under investigation by (a) the department and (b) by the DPP.
- (4) Against how many individuals has prosecution action been taken and, for each case that has been finalised, what was (a) the State or Territory in which the case was launched, (b) the details of the alleged offence(s), (c) the verdict of the court, and (d) the sentence, if any, imposed.

2194 **MRL D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Is it the case that sanction decisions made by the Migration Agents Registration Authority (MARA) are not published until the finalisation of any appeal by the agent concerned to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) and, if so, what is the basis for this arrangement.
- (2) How many appeals against MARA sanction decisions have been lodged with the AAT to date and, of these, how many (a) proceeded to a hearing with the appeal being dismissed, (b) were withdrawn by the agent prior to a final hearing, (c) proceeded to a hearing with the appeal being upheld in whole or in part, (d) were conceded by MARA without a final hearing, and (e) remain before the AAT at present.
- (3) What was the average period of time that elapsed before completed appeals were (a) withdrawn by the agent prior to any hearing or (b) determined by the AAT.

2198 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has he received a request from the Attorney-General of Victoria to seek leave to intervene in the High Court application for special leave to appeal in the matter of Roxanne Cowell (representing the estate of Rolah Ann McCabe deceased) v British American Tobacco Australia Services Limited; if so, what has he decided to do in relation to this matter and what are the reasons for his decision.
- (2) What is the Government's position on whether the Victorian Court of Appeal correctly formulated and applied the law relating to the duties owed by legal practitioners with regard to the preservation of documents which might be relevant to anticipated legal proceedings.
- (3) Does the Victorian Court of Appeal's decision in this matter have implications for the administration of justice by federal courts; if so, what are the implications.
- (4) Has the Government given consideration to the duties owed by legal practitioners with regard to the preservation of documents which might be relevant to anticipated legal proceedings in the course of its work on national regulation of the legal profession; if so, what steps is the Government taking to

ensure that the federal administration of justice is not undermined by the destruction of documents which might be relevant to anticipated legal proceedings.

- 2206 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) With which countries has Australia entered into agreements to better track financial transactions suspected of involving money laundering or terrorist financing activities.
 - (2) Is the Minister able to say what actions those treaties require the Australian Government to take and what actions have been taken by the Australian Government in accordance with those treaties.
- 2208 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Does the International Narcotics Control Strategy Report identify suspicious international transactions.
 - (2) Has that report reflected the increasing exploitation of electronic money routes and the development of cyber-laundering.
 - (3) What steps are being taken by the Australian Government to combat those phenomena.
- 2209 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What steps, if any, are being taken by the Australian Government and/or Australian authorities to scrutinise the Hawala banking system in Australia.
 - (2) Have any instances been detected where that system has been used to effect money-laundering activities; if so, what were those instances.
- 2212 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—Has the OECD established a body called the Financial Action Task Force to combat fraud and money-laundering; if so, (a) when was that body established, (b) what is its charter, and (c) what role does it play in tracing the terrorist money trail.
- 2213 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Has the Government undertaken any research in respect of computer software available to combat money-laundering.
 - (2) Has the Government considered obtaining that software; if so, what software is the Government contemplating obtaining and when is it likely that it will be obtained.
 - (3) Is the Government aware of the software package titled *Hot Scan* developed by the United States software company Logica; if so, is the Minister able to say (a) which United States institutions utilise that software, (b) what that software has been utilised for, and (c) how successful its use has been.
 - (4) Is the Government contemplating purchasing *Hot Scan* and/or any other software to undertake a task similar to that performed by *Hot Scan*.
- 2215 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Which bodies in the financial sector have agreed to hold biannual ministerial meetings to discuss ways to combat fraud.
 - (2) When and where will the first such meeting take place.
 - (3) Which Commonwealth Ministers will attend.
 - (4) Which government agencies and which private sector organisations will attend.
 - (5) What items are on the agenda and what outcomes is the Commonwealth seeking from the meeting.
- 2216 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What is the current status of the review of the *Financial Transactions Reports Act 1988*.
 - (2) Who is coordinating the review, when did it commence and when does the Government expect it to be completed.
 - (3) Which government agencies have participated in the review.
 - (4) Which private sector organisations have been consulted in the course of the review.
 - (5) What issues have been raised by the review.
 - (6) When will the issues paper referred to at page 45 of the AUSTRAC 2001-2002 Annual Report be released.
 - (7) Will the revised 40 recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force be considered as part of the review.

2221 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm whether the Government or the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has announced that the ATO would have a specialist GST compliance squad; if so, (a) when and (b) by whom was the announcement made, and (c) what was the content of the announcement.
- (2) When was the GST compliance squad expected to commence operations and when did it, or when will it, actually commence operations.
- (3) What was the announced budget for the GST compliance squad and how much has it actually been allocated.
- (4) In respect of the recruitment for the GST compliance squad, (a) when did the ATO advertise for positions, (b) was the advertising or recruitment done by a private recruitment firm; if so, which one, (c) what was the cost of the advertisements, (d) where were the advertisements placed, (e) what was the closing date for applications, (f) how many applications were received, (g) what was the process for shortlisting applicants, (h) how many applicants were interviewed, (i) when and by whom were interviews conducted, (j) how much did the recruitment process cost (i) in total, (ii) per applicant, and (iii) per interview, (k) what progress has been made since the interviews were conducted, (l) how many applicants, if any, have been offered jobs, and, (m) if no job offers have been made, why and when is it expected that they will be made.
- (5) Does the Government or the ATO still intend to create a GST compliance squad; if not, why not; if so, will it be necessary to conduct a new recruitment process and, if a new recruitment process is necessary, how much will it cost.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that the ATO budgeted for the establishment of the GST compliance squad in the 2003-2004 financial year, but that no money was allocated for this purpose by the Government; if so, (a) how much did the ATO estimate that it would need, (b) why did the Government decide not to allocate it, and (c) when was the ATO informed that it would not receive the funds to establish the GST compliance squad.
- (7) Is the Minister aware of the claim by the National Tax and Accountants Association that a significant 'black' or 'cash' economy exists in Australia; if so, (a) can the Minister confirm the claim, (b) is the Minister able to provide an estimate of the size of the 'black' economy, and (c) what action does the Government intend to take to reduce it.

2231 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How is it determined which recipients of a Centrelink benefit receive the Income and Assets Review form.
- (2) How many recipients of a Centrelink benefit in the seat of Hunter were requested to complete the Income and Assets Review form in the financial years (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, and (c) 2002-2003.
- (3) How many recipients of a Centrelink benefit failed to return the Income and Assets Review form within the prescribed 21 day period and as a result had their Centrelink benefits cut off.
- (4) How many recipients of a Centrelink benefit that failed to return the Income and Assets Review form within the prescribed 21 days and had the Centrelink benefit cut off were over the age of 85 years.
- (5) Of the people over the age of 85 years who had their benefit cut off, how many had their payment reinstated to the amount it was prior to receiving the Income and Assets Review.

2234 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many (a) students, (b) mature age students, and (c) mature age students with dependants are expected to be affected by the closure of the Student Financial Supplement Loan Scheme in the financial years (i) 2003-2004, (ii) 2004-2005, (iii) 2005-2006.
- (2) What is the likely or expected impact on (a) course completions and (b) course completion dates for the affected students.
- (3) What modelling has Centrelink done to determine the likely impact of these changes on (a) course enrolments, (b) failure rates, and (c) non-completion rates.
- (4) If no modelling was undertaken how were the potential impacts evaluated.
- (5) How are the impacts of the changes to be monitored.

13 August 2003

2253 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—Is the Treasurer aware that (a) AMP released confidential information about Mr Michael Gane's fund to his ex-wife using a revoked power of attorney, (b) AMP

refused to release funds to Mr Gane to meet his obligations as approved by the Family Court between 30 October 2001 and 31 January 2002, (c) AMP, contrary to the Family Court orders, diverted funds directly to Mr Gane's ex-wife until stopped by the solicitors acting for him in the Family Court, (d) AMP, without authority, reduced the amounts of withdrawal applications of 5 October 2001 and 30 October 2001 which were in accordance with Family Court orders and subsequently denied to the SCT that they had cut back these withdrawal applications, (e) AMP referred Mr Gane's withdrawal applications to his ex-wife or her solicitors for scrutiny even when these applications were made in accordance with the Court orders, and (f) AMP refuses to supply Mr Gane with copies of missing withdrawal detail forms, which were requested from AMP on 27 June 2002.

14 August 2003

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2258 - 2259)—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1212 (*Hansard*, 4 February 2003, page 184), is the Minister's department still considering the purchase of laser anti-missile defence systems; if so, (a) which systems, (b) from whom would they be purchased, (c) what is the price per unit, (d) how many units is the Government considering purchasing, (e) who would they be for, (f) which airlines would use them, (g) which aircraft would use them, (h) would they be purchased for commercial aircraft, and (i) would they be purchased for RAAF aircraft.
- (2) If the Minister's department is not still considering the purchase of laser anti-missile defence systems (a) why not, and (b) what conclusions did the Minister's department come to when deciding either not to consider the purchase or not to proceed with the purchase of the technology.
- (3) Is the Minister able to say whether any commercial airlines flying within Australia have considered purchasing such technology.
- (4) Would the Government assist commercial airlines with the purchase price.
- (5) Is the Minister able to say whether any airline proceeded with the purchase; if so, (a) which airline, (b) which systems, (c) from whom were they purchased, (d) what was the price per unit, and (e) how many units were purchased.

2258 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2260 - 2261)—

- (1) What are the eligibility rules for the Commonwealth Seniors Health Cards.
- (2) How many (a) people, (b) men, and (c) women currently hold Seniors Health Care Cards (i) in total, (ii) in each State and Territory, and (iii) in each Federal electoral division.
- (3) How many (a) people, (b) men, and (c) women does the Government estimate are eligible for Commonwealth Seniors Health Cards (i) in total, (ii) in each State and Territory, and (iii) in each Federal electoral division.
- (4) What is the total cost to the Commonwealth of Commonwealth Seniors Health Cards.
- (5) When the cost of the Commonwealth Seniors Health Cards was estimated for the budget was an assumption made about the proportion of people eligible to hold the card who would actually apply for and use the card; if so, (a) what was that proportion and (b) what would be the additional cost per annum if everyone who is eligible to hold the card had one.
- (6) What other assumptions were made about the number of card holders when budgeting for the cost of the cards.
- (7) What does the Government do to promote the availability of the card to those eligible to hold one.
- (8) Does the Government automatically inform Centrelink clients of their entitlement to a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card if they are eligible; if not, (a) why not, (b) has it considered doing so, and (c) what would it cost to do so.

2260 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

2261 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

2263 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What was the amount of funding provided in (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003, and (c) the Budget allocation for 2003-04 for the following elements of the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS): (i) Initial Information and Orientation Assistance, (ii) Accommodation Support, (iii) Household Formation, (iv) Early Health Assessment and Intervention, (v) Community Support for Refugees, (vi) Proposers' Support, and (vii) Service Support.
- (2) What is the estimated number of clients that will be assisted under the IHSS in 2003-2004.

- (3) Following the findings of the Report of the Review of Settlement Services for Migrants and Humanitarian Entrants released by him in May, has the Government agreed to make any enhancements to the IHSS; if so, (a) what are the details and (b) what is the amount of additional funding to be provided; if not, why not.

18 August 2003

2274 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In respect of his media release on 7 August 2003 about a reference of powers relating to money laundering, when did he first transmit his request to the State Attorneys-General to refer powers relating to money laundering.
- (2) How did he transmit that request.
- (3) When did he first provide the State Attorneys-General with draft legislation providing for the reference of powers.
- (4) In his request, when did he require the State Attorneys-General to resolve the issue of the reference of powers.
- (5) Does a decision by the Commonwealth to accept a reference of powers require a decision by Cabinet, or by him acting alone.
- (6) If the answer to part (5) depends on the circumstances of the case, on what circumstances does it depend.

2277 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to part (1) of question No. 1881 (*Hansard*, 11 August 2003, page 18057), which recommendations are consistent with the Government's corporate governance and CLERP proposals.
- (2) Further to the answer to part (2), when does he expect to be in a position to indicate which other recommendations the Government supports.

2278 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Further to the answer to part (2) of question No. 2115 (*Hansard*, 12 August 2003, page 18191), is he able to say why a uniform editorial policy was embraced by the editors of News Corporation newspapers in North America, Australia and the United Kingdom in relation to the war in Iraq which was entirely consistent with Mr Rupert Murdoch's support for the war.
- (2) Can he explain how, under the proposed Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002, newsrooms would be truly independent of their owners.

19 August 2003

2291 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) For the financial years (a) 1998-1999, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002, (e) 2002-2003, how many applications for financial assistance have been granted and refused under (i) section 183 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, (ii) the Special Circumstances (Native Title) Scheme, and (iii) the Common Law (Native Title) Scheme.
- (2) How many grants of financial assistance have been made for a particular stage of proceedings and how many for the whole of proceedings, pursuant to paragraphs 7.6 and 7.7 of the guidelines.
- (3) How many grants have been made to group representatives and how many to individual parties.
- (4) In how many cases have solicitors' fees been paid (a) at, and (b) above, 100% of the Federal Court scale.
- (5) In how many cases has his department requested that a solicitor's bill of costs be taxed, pursuant to paragraph 7.15 of the guidelines.
- (6) In how many cases has his department called for a solicitor's file, pursuant to paragraph 7.15 of the guidelines.
- (7) How many grants have included an amount for counsel, pursuant to paragraph 7.16 of the guidelines.
- (8) What amount of costs has been recovered by the Commonwealth pursuant to paragraphs 7.19, 7.28 and 7.29 of the guidelines.
- (9) What amount of assistance has been provided on account of costs orders against legally assisted parties, pursuant to paragraph 7.20 of the guidelines.

- (10) How long does his department allow a legally assisted party to provide its report pursuant to 7.22 of the guidelines.
- (11) In how many cases has a legally assisted party failed to provide such a report (a) in the time required, and (b) at all and what action did his department take in these cases.
- (12) In how many cases has his department terminated grants of assistance and sought reimbursement pursuant to 7.25 and 7.26 of the guidelines.

2292 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has he received a report on the operation of the Regional Law Hotline; if so, (a) when, (b) who prepared the report, and (c) does the report identify options for changes to the Regional Law Hotline.
- (2) How much has been spent on the Regional Law Hotline (a) in total, and (b) in each financial year.
- (3) Through which programs has this funding been provided and how much has been provided through each program (a) in total, and (b) in each financial year.
- (4) To which agencies and organisations has this funding been provided and how much has been provided to each agency and organisation (a) in total, and (b) in each financial year.

2295 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What functions and powers do the Australian Federal Police have in policing child abduction, including cases involving non-compliance with family law orders.
- (2) What funding and resources do the Australian Federal Police currently allocate to these functions.

2296 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What projects (a) are currently funded and (b) have previously been funded through the National Crime Prevention Program.
- (2) How much funding has been allocated to each project.
- (3) Who is or was carrying out each project.
- (4) How much has been spent in total to date under the Program.
- (5) How much has been spent in each financial year since 1999-2000.

2297 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1551 (*Hansard*, 12 August 2003, page 18166) concerning the taxation affairs of members of the legal profession, will he commit to provide an up-dated report on the Legal Profession Project in the 2002-2003 Commissioner of Taxation's Annual Report.

2298 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Is he aware that the Airservices Australia Reports for 1997-1998 and 1998-1999 provide a Board biography for Ms Gail Burke.
- (2) Can he confirm that the Board biography for Ms Burke in the report for 1997-1998 states that (a) "Gail Burke heads Macquarie Bank's Information Services Division", (b) "She is also an Executive Director of the Bank and its Operations Review and IT Committees", and (c) "Ms Burke is also a member of the Finance Minister's IT&T Policy Advisory Committee".
- (3) Can he confirm that the Board biography for Ms Burke in the report for 1998-1999 states that (a) "Gail Burke heads Macquarie Bank's Information Services Division", and (b) "She is also an Executive Director of the Bank and its Operations Review and IT Committees".
- (4) On what date did Ms Burke first become a member of his IT&T Policy Advisory Committee.
- (5) On what date did Ms Burke cease being a member of his IT&T Policy Advisory Committee.
- (6) Is he aware that Ms Burke was a member of his IT&T Policy Advisory Committee on 30 July 1997 when the Minister for Transport and Regional Services made a Ministerial Directive on the Long-Term Operating Plan for Sydney Airport pursuant to subsection 16(1) of the *Air Services Act 1995*.

20 August 2003

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2305 - 2306)—

- (1) For each of the years (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, and (h) 2003 to date, how many (i) women have been found working illegally in brothels in Australia, and (ii) how many were under 18 years of age.
- (2) In respect of the women found working illegally in brothels in Australia, what categories of visas did they hold and what was the total number of visas in each category.

- (3) How many raids on brothels have been undertaken by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs or the Australian Federal Police.
- (4) For each of the years (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, and (h) 2003 to date, in how many brothels were women found to be working illegally.
- (5) How many of the women referred to in part (1) were deported and what is the average length of time from arrest to deportation.
- (6) Which countries did the women referred to in part (1) come from.
- (7) How many of the women were interviewed in relation to possible offences committed by their employers.
- (8) How many brothel owners and managers were (a) investigated for any breaches of the law, (b) charged, and (c) convicted as a result of raids in the period 1996 to date.
- (9) In relation to the raid on the brothel in Melbourne on Monday 11 August 2003, were any managers or owners investigated or taken into custody in relation to sexual servitude or any other offence.
- (10) How many brothel owners or managers have been convicted under Commonwealth sexual servitude legislation.

2305 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

21 August 2003

2317 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Which community legal services are now using the Community Legal Services Information System (CLISIS).
- (2) Which of these services use PCs and which use Macs to operate CLISIS.
- (3) Does his department maintain a help desk for CLISIS; if so, (a) who provides the help desk services and (b) how many calls, complaints and faults have been logged by the help desk in each month since it began operating.
- (4) Is his department aware of concerns about the stability of the Mac version of CLISIS; if so, what are these concerns and what steps has it taken to act on these concerns.
- (5) Is his department aware of concerns about the report-writing tool in CLISIS; if so, what are these concerns and what steps has it taken to act on these concerns.
- (6) What was the original budget for CLISIS.
- (7) What has been spent on CLISIS to date.
- (8) How much has been paid to Borland Australia.
- (9) Who negotiated the contract with Borland Australia.
- (10) Who signed off on the contract with Borland Australia.
- (11) Is he able to provide a copy of the original contract with Borland Australia; if not, why not.

2320 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) In respect of the Telstra mobile telephone transmission installation at Suffolk Park, NSW, which is currently under investigation by the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman, can the Minister explain the 3 month delay in construction from its commencement in March 2003 to the resumption of work in late June 2003.
- (2) Was this delay consistent with Telstra's contractual obligations to the Government to erect a large number of these installations by 30 June 2003.
- (3) Was the early commencement and subsequent discontinuance of work an attempt to avoid the provisions of the Deployment of Radio Communications Infrastructure Industry Code which came into effect on 10 April 2003.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that the installation has been placed atop a water tower on community land for which plans exist to construct a public viewing platform; if so, is this location, which is close to residences and proposed childcare, school and sporting facilities, an appropriate location for this installation; if not, what action will the Minister take to require Telstra to relocate the installation.

8 September 2003

- 2327 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Was a tender process conducted before the Government awarded a contract to the Institute of Public Affairs to audit non-government organisations.
 - (2) Who made the decision to award the contract to the Institute of Public Affairs.
 - (3) Was departmental advice given on whether or not to award this contract; if so, what was this advice.
 - (4) What are the terms of reference for the Institute of Public Affairs inquiry.
 - (5) Which government department is administering the contract.
 - (6) What is the value of the contract.
 - (7) When is the Institute of Public Affairs expected to report and will the report be made public.
- 2335 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is he familiar with the sixth message of the Community Panel Report to Sydney Airport Corporation in June 2003 recommending that the residential noise insulation program be expanded in line with the impacts of airport expansion.
 - (2) What is the current status and level of activity of the residential noise insulation project.
 - (3) Is he able to say whether there will be any future expansion of the insulation area; if so, where is that expansion likely to take place.
- 2336 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) In respect of the budget announcement that Pensioner Education Supplement payments are to be suspended between December and February, (a) between which pay-dates will payments be stopped and (b) what criteria were used to determine these dates.
 - (2) How many Centrelink recipients is this measure expected to affect.
 - (3) How much money, if any, is this measure expected to save per annum and, if no money is expected to be saved, what is the rationale for the measure.
 - (4) Has any modelling been undertaken to assess the impact of this measure or is any modelling or assessment planned to be undertaken; if so, what are the details of the modelling planned or undertaken; if not, why not.
 - (5) If modelling was undertaken, what was the outcome of that modelling or assessment and what impacts, if any, is this measure expected to have on prospective and continuing students who are expected to be affected by this measure.
- 2338 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) From the time of the 51st session of the United Nations General Assembly, at which sessions including special and emergency sessions, has there been debate or discussion on the agenda items: “Question of Palestine” and/or “The Situation in the Middle East”.
 - (2) What resolutions related to these agenda items were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in each session.
 - (3) How did Australia vote in relation to each resolution.
- 2339 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What are the current customs regulations relating to the import and export of cat and dog furs.
 - (2) Is the importation of cat and dog furs prohibited; if so, which legislative provisions prohibit it; if not, why not.
 - (3) Is the export of cat and dog furs prohibited; if so, which legislative provisions prohibit it; if not, why not.

9 September 2003

- 2344 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is Iran a convention country for the purposes of the *Family Law (Child Abduction Convention) Regulations 1986*; if not, what steps has the Government taken to develop a process for dealing with child abductions between Australia and Iran.
 - (2) Has Australia at any stage received a request from Iran for the return of Massoumeh Mastipour to that country; if so, (a) when was that request received, (b) from whom, (c) by whom, and (d) what steps has the Government taken to process the request.

- (3) Is he or his department aware of statements attributed to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs on *ABC On-line* on 27 August 2003 in an article entitled “Ruddock defends Iranian girl’s deportation” relating to the deportation of an Iranian child by the Australian Government to Iran; if so, when did he or his department become aware of this case.
 - (4) Did he or his department have any involvement in this case; if so, what was the nature of that involvement.
 - (5) Which court in Iran ordered that this child be in the custody of her mother, what were the terms of that court order, and on what date was it made.
 - (6) Under what statutory provision was this child transferred from Australia to Iran.
 - (7) What steps did the Australian Government take in Iran to place this child in the custody of her mother.
 - (8) Is this child in the custody of her mother.
- 2349 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Has Australia at any stage received a request from Iran for the return of Massoumeh Mastipour to that country; if so, (a) when was that request received, (b) from whom, (c) by whom, and (d) what steps has the Government taken to process the request.
 - (2) Can he confirm the statements attributed to him on *ABC On-line* on 27 August 2003 in an article entitled “Ruddock defends Iranian girl’s deportation” relating to the deportation of an Iranian child by the Australian Government to Iran.
 - (3) Under which statutory provision was this child transferred from Australia to Iran.
 - (4) Which court in Iran ordered that this child be in the custody of her mother, what were the terms of that court order, and on what date was it made.
 - (5) What steps did he or his department take to consult with the Attorney-General or the Attorney-General’s Department regarding this child.
 - (6) What steps did the Australian Government take in Iran to place this child in the custody of her mother.
 - (7) Is this child in the custody of her mother.
- 2357 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—In respect of the two mainframe computers stolen from Sydney Airport last week, can he confirm that those computers did not contain any information relating to (a) Custom’s alert systems; (b) prospective cargo examinations, and (c) the selection of passengers for further questioning and investigation; if so, how confident is he that the computers did not contain this type of information; if not, what action has he taken to secure that intelligence.
- 2358 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What type of computers were stolen during the security breach of Customs at Sydney Airport on 27 August this year.
 - (2) When were these units purchased and what was the purchase cost.
 - (3) How long have they been in use by Customs.
- 2359 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is the Medicare Processing Centre in Brisbane going to be closed; if so, (a) when was the decision to close it taken and (b) when will it close.
 - (2) Does the centre undertake the processing of bulk-billing claims.
 - (3) Has there been a decline in bulk-billing claims processed at this centre in the past three years.
 - (4) Is the closure of this office related to the Government’s policy of restricting bulk-billing.
 - (5) How many full-time and part-time jobs will be lost if this office closes.

10 September 2003

- 2365 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Can he confirm that Aladdin Sisalem is being detained at the Manus Island detention centre.
 - (2) Did Aladdin Sisalem request asylum on Thursday Island; if so, what was the legal basis for sending him to Papua New Guinea.
 - (3) What is causing the delay in processing Aladdin Sisalem’s application for asylum.

- (4) Why is Aladdin Sisalem being kept in isolation on Manus Island when he could be detained on the Australian mainland at less expense.
- (5) What does the Government intend to do with Aladdin Sisalem when the Manus Island detention centre is closed in October.

2366 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Did the Minister tell the National Nine Television Network on 7 September 2003 that he intends to re-introduce the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that (a) News Limited is an Australian subsidiary of News Corporation that is owned and controlled by Mr Rupert Murdoch, (b) News Limited has interests in more than 100 national, regional and suburban newspapers throughout Australia, (c) News Limited has approximately two thirds of the capital city and national newspaper market, three quarters of the Sunday newspaper market, almost fifty per cent of the suburban newspaper market and almost one quarter of the regional newspaper market, (d) News Limited has a quarter stake in Foxtel's pay television and News Interactive Online, and (e) News Limited has additional media interests in AAP Information Services.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that (a) Publishing and Broadcasting Limited (PBL) is an Australian media company chaired by Mr James Packer which owns and controls the National Nine Television Network and the magazine publisher Australian Consolidated Press, (b) the largest shareholder in PBL is Mr Kerry Packer, (c) PBL owns three metropolitan television licences and one regional television licence giving it more than half of the potential audience, (d) PBL has a quarter interest in Foxtel and a third interest in Sky News, (e) PBL publishes more than 65 magazines and its share of the circulation of the top thirty Australian magazines is approximately 40%, and (f) PBL has a joint on-line operation known as ninemsn.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 would allow (a) Mr Kerry Packer's media companies to buy and control John Fairfax Publications Pty Ltd which publishes *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age* and *The Financial Review* newspapers, and (b) Mr Murdoch's media companies to buy and control the Seven Television Network or the Ten Television Network, in addition to their existing media interests.
- (5) Can the Minister explain how the concentration of media interests that would be allowed under the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill) 2002 is in the public interest and good for the future of Australia's democracy.

2370 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Government, between 1998 to present, make assurances to marine operators on the Great Barrier Reef in North Queensland, including the Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators (AMPTO), that the GST would not apply to the Reef tax; if so, on what authority were such undertakings made.
- (2) Was he aware of these undertakings at the time; if not, when did he become aware of them.
- (3) Were any representations made to him to support the undertaking of non-compliance with the GST legislation.

2371 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) determined that the GST applies to the Reef tax; if so, has the ATO commenced action against marine operators who failed to collect the GST payable on the Reef tax since 1999.
- (2) Was he aware that only one or two operators had actually collected the GST on the Reef tax; if so, what action did he take in response to this situation.
- (3) On whose authority did the ATO decide not to continue with action to recover the GST and was he aware of the decision made by the ATO.
- (4) Did he or any other member of the Government direct or otherwise influence the ATO to discontinue action to recover the GST which had not been collected on the Reef tax.
- (5) Is it the case that the ATO has written to operators advising that the GST should be collected on the Reef tax effective from 1 September 2003; if so, (a) on what basis was this decision made, (b) who made it, and (c) how was the date of 1 September determined.
- (6) Is a differential application of the liability to collect and forward the GST supported by the Government.

- (7) Will the approach adopted for the application of the GST to the Reef Tax be applied to other similar cases as they come to the ATO's notice.
- 2374 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many attempted suicides have there been in detention centres (a) in total and (b) in each of the last five years.
 - (2) What proportion of people (a) in Australia, and (b) in detention centres, has attempted suicide over the last five years.
 - (3) In respect of the water supplied to each detention centre, (a) what is its calcium content, and (b) does it meet the Australian Standard for potable water.
 - (4) Can he provide examples of the daily menus at the detention centres.
 - (5) Are different nutritional needs, such as those of children and pregnant women, catered for.
 - (6) Do nutritionists monitor the diets of detainees; if so, are the nutritionists on site or do they review the menus only.
 - (7) Are checks carried out to ensure that prescribed meals correspond with the actual food served by Australasian Correctional Management Pty Ltd (A.C.M).
- 2375 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Can the Minister provide details of payments to the ABC by the Audio Visual Copyright Society (Screenrights) over the last three financial years for (a) school programs, (b) other educational programs, and (c) the program *Behind the News*.

11 September 2003

- 2380 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—How much was spent preparing, developing and implementing ESC3 including the costs of consultants, external research, legal advice and advertising.
- 2386 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm reports in the *Herald-Sun* on 9 September 2003 to the effect that Telstra has redirected a \$15 million contract to the Indian IT provider Infosys that will have the effect of sending up to 180 existing IT jobs at IBM Global Services offshore to India.
 - (2) Was the Government aware in advance of this move by Telstra.
 - (3) Can the Minister confirm that Indian workers at Infosys are paid \$40,000 per annum less than their Australian counterparts.
 - (4) Is the Minister able to inform the House about Infosys' comparative Occupational Health and Safety standards.
- 2387 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is he aware of article by Monica Videnieks in *The Australian* on 9 September 2003 titled "Creditors after wife of ex-QC tax cheat".
 - (2) Can he confirm whether the bankrupt former barrister, John Cummins, who has not paid tax for more than forty years, transferred ownership of his Hunters Hill home and 6,000 shares in his Bar Chamber practice to his estranged wife, Mary Elizabeth Cummins.
 - (3) Can he confirm that the trustee of Mr Cummins' Estate, Mr Bernard Cole QC, told the Federal Court that these assets were transferred "in an effort to avoid detection" by creditors to the bankrupt estate.
 - (4) Is he able to say whether (a) a discretionary family trust, (b) a shelf company, (c) a creditor's petition in bankruptcy, (d) provisions of the *Family Law Act 1975*, in particular, the ancillary relief of property orders, (e) provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Acts, and (f) the corporate structure of Ms Cummins' business "Hospitality Hire", were used in an effort to place Mr Cummins' assets out of the reach of his creditors.
 - (5) Is he acting to ensure that legal structures and instruments that exist for a legitimate purpose are not used to defraud the Commonwealth, evade tax or place assets beyond the reach of creditors; if so, what is he doing; if not, why not.
- 2388 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is he aware that the Companies Auditors and Liquidators Disciplinary Board (CALDB) has reprimanded Mr Gregory Lourey in respect of his conduct of the audit on the financial report of National Textiles Limited for the year ended 30 June 1999.

- (2) Can he confirm that National Textiles is the same company to which the Government provided significant funding to facilitate its liquidation and, at the time, the Prime Minister's brother was board chairman.
- (3) Can he confirm that the reprimand comes after the matter was referred to the CALDB by ASIC.
- (4) Can he confirm that this is the same audit firm that audited Nardell Colliery and gave an unqualified audit opinion for the 2002 financial year despite the fact that the company had recorded a loss of \$14.457 million; if so, will he act to refer the Nardell closure to ASIC for full investigation.

15 September 2003

2392 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—What was the cost per aircraft of acquiring and installing ground to air missile counter measure capability on RAAF C130 Hercules aircraft.

2396 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Using the Post Program Monitoring Survey would he provide details of the employment and educational outcomes achieved by jobseekers exiting Intensive Assistance for the second time during ESC2.
- (2) Would he also provide these details for jobseekers exiting Intensive Assistance for the third time.

2399 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Can he confirm reports that the Indonesian police have admitted that at least 319 civilians have been killed and 117 others injured in the last four months of operations in Aceh.
- (2) Can he confirm reports that at least 30 people, five of them boys aged 13 and under, have been killed in extra-judicial executions in Aceh.
- (3) Is it the case that TNI Major-General Adam R Damiri, who is in charge of military operations in the province, has been convicted and sentenced to three years jail for human rights abuses in East Timor.
- (4) Can he confirm the dates of the impending visit to Australia by the head of the Indonesia special operations force Kopassus.
- (5) What steps is the Government taking to urge the Indonesian government to (a) remove its restrictions on access to Aceh by diplomats, international observers and international human rights NGOs, (b) immediately allow unhindered access to Aceh to impartial humanitarian agencies, and (c) ensure that civil society groups and human rights defenders are able to continue their work in safety and without fear.

16 September 2003

2404 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What was the outcome of the 7th Australia-China Human Rights Dialogue which took place in China and Tibet on 28 July 2003.
- (2) Did the delegation meet with any political prisoners and visit any prisons in Tibet.
- (3) Is he able to say what has become of the Panchen Lama, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, who is recognised by the Dalai Lama and who has not been seen by any outsider since 1995.
- (4) Did the delegation raise the issue of the Panchen Lama during its recent visit, or has Australia raised the issue at any other time.
- (5) Will he explain the Government's position on the ongoing dialogue between China and the representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.
- (6) Did the Government ever consider appointing a Tibet Co-ordinator to facilitate dialogue, as the United States of America has done.
- (7) What is the Government's position on the recent meeting between the Dalai Lama and the President of the United States on 9 September 2003.
- (8) Will the Government be raising the issue of Tibet with the President of the People's Republic of China during his forthcoming visit to Australia.

2405 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2027 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18981) in respect of statistical collections by Centrelink, does Centrelink record any information on the period of time it takes to process applications for benefits from the date of application to the decision to grant or refuse a benefit payment; if so, what information is collected.
- (2) Will the Minister table the Business Partnership Agreement with Centrelink.

- (3) Will the Minister provide details on the timeliness standards for payments and services for the 2002-2003 financial year, as set by the Agreement.

2406 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to part (3) of question No. 1416 (*Hansard*, 26 May 2003, page 14975) what is the Taxation Commissioner doing to ensure that Mrs Mary Cummins pays to the Taxation Commissioner the large taxation debt (plus interest) due to the Treasury following the bankruptcy of her husband, the former QC, Mr John Cummins.

17 September 2003

2409 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What was the Budget allocation for the Expensive Criminal Cases Fund for each financial year since the Fund was established.
- (2) In each State and Territory for each financial year since the Fund was established, (a) how many grants of assistance have been made from the Fund, (b) what was the size of each grant, and (c) how much assistance has been granted in total.
- (3) How much unspent funding has been carried forward in each financial year since the fund was established.

2414 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2152 (*Hansard*, 9 September 2003, page 19077), is he aware that a lead lawyer in the American Bar Association's project to draft labour legislation for Afghanistan was supplied by the American law firm, Dechert.
- (2) Is he aware that Dechert states on its website: "we help employers maintain a union-free environment".
- (3) Is he able to say whether the International Labour Organisation's offer to review the final draft labour legislation has been accepted.

2416 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the article entitled "Has Telstra been fudging the service standard figures" on Crikey.com's Sole Subscriber Sealed Section Bulletin dated 15 September at 4.34 p.m.
- (2) Has the Minister investigated allegations in this article that Telstra has been providing the Australian Communications Authority with incorrect service performance statistics that have misrepresented Telstra's service performance in an overly positive light; if so, can the Minister provide a full account of the investigation.
- (3) Can the Minister state categorically that all Telstra's service performance statistics over the past three year's are accurate.

2417 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Will the Minister explain the process and provide the criteria that were used to determine that a Postpoint self-service unit located within the newsagency at Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre in the electoral division of Isaacs is the preferred option for residents instead of a Post Office.
- (2) Has a recent survey been done to establish where the residents of Aspendale Gardens currently conduct their bill paying and postal service transactions; if so, when was the survey undertaken and what were the results.

2418 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Could he explain the Government's current strategy for dealing with the issue of feral pigs and the threat they pose to the health of Australia's livestock, our natural biodiversity and environment.
- (2) Can he confirm whether estimates of the feral pig population in Australia as high as 23 million are correct.
- (3) Is the Government taking steps to implement a nationally coordinated approach to the feral pig issue; if not, why not.

18 September 2003

2421 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—In respect of Telstra Pre-Paid Mobile services, is the Minister aware that customers have had difficulties accessing the network when the network is busy; if so, (a) when and how

was the Minister advised of the problem, (b) what is the total number of reported instances of this problem, (c) what is Telstra doing to fix this problem, (d) what is the projected cost of addressing this problem, (e) how much has Telstra expended to date on addressing this problem, (f) when does Telstra expect that they will have this problem resolved in all areas, and (g) since the problem was discovered, which ten electoral divisions have reported the highest incidence of this problem as a percentage of all Telstra mobile telephone customers in those electoral divisions.

2427 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What steps has the Minister taken since 11 September 2001 to ensure that systems to establish the identity of staff and officials working at Australia's airports and control access to areas within airports are (a) able to accurately identify people attempting to benefit from their use, and (b) actively enforced by the security staff responsible for their implementation.

2428 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What steps has the Minister taken since 11 September 2001 to ensure that (a) people and (b) cargo entering Australia by (i) air, and (ii) sea are not a threat to the national security of Australia.

2430 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What measures has the Minister taken since 11 September 2001 to (a) increase the screening of cargo entering Australia through Australian seaports, and (b) to ensure the safety of critical port infrastructure.

2432 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What was the actual cost of the Air Security Officer (ASO) program in (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003.
- (2) What is the budgeted cost of the ASO program in (a) 2003-2004, (b) 2004-2005, (c) 2005-2006, and (d) 2006-2007.
- (3) Will the placement of Air Security Officers on international commercial flights be met from existing or additional resources.

2434 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What steps has he taken since 11 September 2001 to (a) enhance the security of (i) railroad infrastructure, (ii) major rail facilities, and (iii) key rail hubs, (b) enhance the security of passengers travelling by rail, and (c) ensure that cargo transported by rail does not pose a threat to Australia's national security.

2438 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Which organisations received funding under the Family Relationships Services Program in 2002-2003.
- (2) In respect of each organisation which received funding, (a) how much did it receive, (b) what was the start and end date of its service agreement, and (c) what services did it provide.

2439 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, what funding was provided by his department under schemes to provide financial assistance towards legal costs and related expenses.
- (2) For each of the financial years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 in respect of each scheme to provide financial assistance towards legal costs and related expenses, (a) what was its name, and (b) what funding was provided.
- (3) In respect of the financial assistance scheme for Royal Commissions, in each of the financial years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, what funding was provided in relation to (a) the Royal Commission into the Building and Construction Industry, and (b) the HIH Royal Commission.
- (4) In respect of the financial assistance scheme for Royal Commissions for each of the financial years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, without disclosing the identity of the recipient, what the amount of each grant of assistance under each scheme.

2440 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In which court and tribunal matters did he intervene or otherwise appear as a party in 2002-2003.
- (2) In respect of each matter, what was the (a) name, (b) court or tribunal, (c) matter number, (d) date of his intervention or appearance, and (e) cost of his intervention or participation.
- (3) In respect of each matter, did he make written or oral submissions or both.

2442 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What have been (a) the costs to date (including winding-up costs) and (b) the further budgeted costs of the (i) Royal Commission into the Building and Construction Industry, and (ii) HIH Royal Commission.

- (2) In respect of each Royal Commission, what was the total cost of the services of (a) each counsel assisting the Royal Commission, (b) solicitors assisting each Royal Commission, including fees, disbursements, accommodation and travel costs and all other expenses and allowances.
 - (3) In respect of each Royal Commission, what was the total cost of the services of the Royal Commissioner, including salary, superannuation, accommodation and travel costs, and all other expenses and allowances.
 - (4) In respect of each Royal Commission, who provided media liaison services and what was the total cost of those services.
 - (5) In respect of each Royal Commission, (a) how many copies were printed, and (b) what were the total publishing and printing costs of (i) any interim report, and (ii) the final report.
- 2445 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1547 (*Hansard*, 15 September 2003, page 19411), how many barristers were still not up-to-date with their income taxation returns as at 15 September 2003.
 - (2) What action was taken by the Taxation Commissioner between 3 March 2003 and 15 September 2003 to force those barristers to lodge their income taxation returns.
- 2446 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1587 (*Hansard*, 15 September 2003, page 19411,) will he introduce a new specific industry code in relation to self-employed barristers; if not, why not.
- 2447 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further the answer to question No. 1886 (*Hansard*, 15 September 2003, page 19412,) has the Commissioner of Taxation’s communications with the New South Wales Bar Association included communication about the professional misconduct of particular barristers; if not, why not; if so, what are the details.
- 2448 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1653 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18973), what is the amount of money obtained by the Commissioner of Taxation for, or on account of, a debtor from third parties in each of the financial years ended 1997 to 2003.
- 2449 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1761 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18973), how many (a) barristers, and (b) solicitors or lawyers were not up-to-date with the lodgement of their income taxation returns with the Australian Taxation Office in each of the financial years ended 1997 to 2003.
 - (2) What action has the Commissioner of Taxation taken since 1 July 1997 to force members of the legal profession to lodge their income taxation returns with the Australian Taxation Office.
 - (3) What are the details of the (i) administrative penalties and (ii) prosecutions taken against members of the legal profession.
 - (4) Can he provide an up-to-date report on the action taken by the Taxation Commissioner since the release by the Attorney-General and the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer on 2 May 2003 of their press release titled “Progress of Government action to strengthen laws to prevent tax abuse”.
 - (5) What is the progress of the Commissioner of Taxation’s investigation to ensure that existing arrangements designed to disadvantage creditors are overturned.
- 2450 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1596 (*Hansard*, 12 August 2003, page 18167), has the Australian Taxation Office received any feedback from any of the attendees at the seminars conducted to promote compliance with taxation law by members of the legal profession; if so, what are the details of that feedback and was there any negative feedback.
- 2451 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1597 (*Hansard*, 12 August 2003, page 18168), how is the Commissioner of Taxation encouraging debate in the community and within the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) so that he might better balance resources given to him by the Government to achieve the greatest compliance with taxation laws especially as they relate to members of the legal profession.
 - (2) Is the ATO adequately staffed and adequately financially resourced; if not, what is the Government doing to assist the Commissioner of Taxation maximise his opportunities to collect the revenue due to the Commonwealth.
 - (3) How are compliance decisions made by the Australian Taxation Office and the Commissioner of Taxation.

- (4) Has the Commissioner of Taxation sought feedback from the staff of the Australian Taxation Office regarding their concerns; if so, (a) what was the nature of that feedback, and (b) has there been any negative feedback; if so, what are the details.

2452 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1641 (*Hansard*, 15 September 2003, page 19411), what is the breakdown of occupations listed as ‘Accounting services’ under which 18 percent pay the top marginal tax rate, in particular, is it possible to break down this group into ‘Accountants’, ‘Accounting services’, ‘Auditing services’, ‘Bookkeeping services’ and ‘Tax agents’; if not, why not.
- (2) What is the reason for aggregating such disparate sub-business industries under global BIC listings such as ‘Accounting services’.
- (3) How is public scrutiny facilitated by such BIC aggregations.
- (4) How is the public to know whether a particular sub-business industry group or BIC group is paying their correct share of taxation.
- (5) Will he consider an inquiry into the reasons why the providers of ‘Accounting services’ have such a low percentage of their business industry population paying the top marginal tax rate; if so, when; if not, why not.

2453 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1881 (*Hansard*, 11 August 2003, page 18057), what is the status of the Government’s consideration of the other recommendations in the HIH Royal Commission Report.

2454 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1882 (*Hansard*, 12 August 2003, page 18176), what is the nature of the information shared between the Australian Taxation Office, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission and the Insolvency and Trustee Service of Australia.

2458 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the answers to questions Nos 2037 and 2038 (*Hansard*, 21 August 2003, page 18865), has the Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia (ITSA) and the Attorney-General’s Department (AGD) briefed him on the views of interested stakeholders regarding the proposals set out in the issues paper; if not, why not; if so, what was his response to those views.

2459 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1571 (*Hansard*, 18 August 2003, page 18522) why is the information in relation to the number of extraordinary general meetings called in each of the last five years by shareholders of public companies compared to those initiated by the boards of public companies, not available.
- (2) Is the Minister’s department able to provide an estimate; if not, why not.

2462 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he aware of changes to flight paths for departures and arrivals at Sydney Airport that will bring properties in the Sydney Basin currently not eligible for noise insulation under the Sydney Airport Noise Insulation Program (SANIP) within that program; if so, what are the details.
- (2) What effect will the changes in flight paths have on the ANEF Contour lines currently used to determine the applicability of Australian Standard AS2021 to particular properties.
- (3) Are revised ANEF Contour line maps publicly available for noise affected properties under the flight paths of aircraft arrivals and departures for Sydney Airport; if so, where can these revised maps be obtained; if not, when will these maps become available.
- (4) Will any part of the electoral division of Lowe become eligible for noise insulation under the SANIP; if so, can he identify those properties and, if properties cannot be identified, why not.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2463 - 2480)—Further to the answers to questions Nos 1620 to 1635 and 1637 (*Hansard*, 12 August 2003, page 18168) what are the Chief Executive Officers of the Minister’s departments and agencies doing to ensure that they do not retain the services of any barrister or solicitor who has previously been made bankrupt.

2463 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister.

2464 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

2465 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer.

2466 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

2468 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

- 2469 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 2471 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 2472 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 2473 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 2474 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2475 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 2478 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- MR MURPHY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2486 - 2487)—
- (1) Has the Minister seen a Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations report dated 24 March 2003 titled "The Social and Economic Impact of Student Debt 2003".
 - (2) Can he confirm the findings of international studies cited in the report which suggest that the increasing cost of education, combined with the reduction of government financial assistance, may prevent many students from continuing with postgraduate studies; if not, why not.
 - (3) Has the Government's reduction of support-services and structures for students in Australia contributed to (a) insurmountable financial pressure on Australian students, and (b) poor postgraduate student completion rates in Australia; if not, why not.
- 2486 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 2494 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—What percentage of medical services provided by General Practitioners was bulk-billed in the Federal Electorate of Bendigo in each year from, and including, 1996.
- 2495 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—
- (1) What Commonwealth funding has been allocated to the City of Greater Bendigo for development work on the (i) Bendigo Art Gallery, and (ii) Capital Theatre Bendigo.
 - (2) In what year was the money paid to the City of Greater Bendigo and for what purposes.
 - (3) Has the Commonwealth undertaken to pay the City of Greater Bendigo the \$2 million dollars originally promised for the development of the Bendigo Art Gallery; if, so, when will this sum be paid.
- 2497 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Did the use of Juliet Block and the treatment of detainees in that block following the riots of January 2001 constitute punishment and humiliation putting Australia in breach of its obligations under its own and international laws.
 - (2) Was he aware of the treatment of detainees in Juliet Block; if not, why was he not properly briefed.
 - (3) Was Mr Saleh denied medical treatment appropriate to his condition and were his medical needs ignored as part of a punishment regime of neglect during his stay at Juliet Block.
 - (4) Are depression and post traumatic stress disorder "illnesses" for the purposes of his department's policies in respect of the health of detainees.
 - (5) In respect of the apparent loss of Mr Saleh's treatment records whilst he was in Juliet Block, is the Minister able to say whether (a) the Detention Centre's claim as noted by the Coroner that they had been destroyed by rioters is correct, or (b) the records were provided to the Coroner.

7 October 2003

- 2499 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—What proportion of jobseekers is expected to exit the Job Network within the first 3 months of being registered with a provider.
- 2500 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) How many jobseekers are expected to commence Intensive Support Customised Assistance (ISCA) for the first time in (a) 2003-2004, (b) 2004-2005, and (c) 2005-2006.
 - (2) How many of these participants are likely to be identified as disadvantaged and fast-tracked into ISCA.
 - (3) What proportion of first-time ISCA participants is expected to drop out within the first three months.
- 2501 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) How many jobseekers are expected to commence Intensive Support Customised Assistance (ISCA) for the second time in (a) 2003-2004, (b) 2004-2005, and (c) 2005-2006.

- (2) What proportion of second-time ISCA participants is expected to drop out within the first three months.

MR M. J. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2504 - 2505)—

- (1) Have laptop computers been lost or stolen from any officer of the department and/or agencies within the portfolio during the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 financial years; if so, for each year (a) how many have been lost and from what section/division of the Department; (b) how many have been stolen and from what section/division of the Department; (c) what is the total value of these computers; (d) what is the average replacement cost per computer; and (e) have any of these computers been recovered or replaced.
- (2) Have the police been asked to investigate any of these incidents; if so (a) how many were the subject of police investigation, (b) how many investigations have been concluded, (c) in how many cases has legal action commenced, and (d) in how many cases has this action been concluded and with what result.
- (3) How many of the computers had departmental documents, content or information other than operating software on their hard disc drives, a floppy disc, a CD ROM, or other storage device.
- (4) Were any of the departmental documents, content or information on the computers classified for security or any other purpose; if so (a) how many, (b) what was the security classification involved, and (c) how many of these (i) unclassified and (ii) classified documents etc. have been recovered.
- (5) Has any departmental disciplinary or other actions been taken in relation to the computers or documents; if so, what are the details.

2505 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

2506 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—For each six-monthly period during the (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, and (c) 2002-2003 financial years, (i) what was the number of complaints received by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner under the *Privacy Act 1988*, (ii) what was the number of complaints closed, (iii) what was the average time taken to close complaints, (iv) how many staff performed complaint-handling duties and what were their classifications, (v) how many audits did the Privacy Commissioner complete, and (vi) how many staff performed audit duties and what were their classifications.

2507 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—What proportion of matters involved an unrepresented party in the (a) High Court of Australia, (b) Federal Court of Australia, (c) Federal Magistrates Court, (d) Family Court of Australia, and (e) Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, in (i) 2001-2002, and (ii) 2002-2003.

2508 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Who is on the Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council and which industry sectors do they represent.
- (2) In respect of each meeting of the council, (a) when did it meet, (b) what matters did it consider, and (c) what were the outcomes.

MR McCLELLAND: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2509 - 2510)—

- (1) Was Phillips Fox awarded a tender to conduct a review of the *Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Act 2000*.
- (2) What did the Government require of organisations submitting tenders, in relation to (a) disclosure of conflicts of interest, and (b) action to address conflicts of interest.
- (3) Did Phillips Fox disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest; if so, (a) what conflicts did it disclose, and (b) what action did Phillips Fox and the Government take to address such conflicts.
- (4) Is the Minister or his department aware that LEF Interactive Pty Ltd has been a client of solicitors at Phillips Fox; if so, when did they become aware.
- (5) Is the Minister or his department aware of the relationship between LEF Interactive Pty Ltd and Kazaa; if so, when did they become aware.
- (6) Does LEF Interactive Pty Ltd have an interest in the outcome of the review.
- (7) What steps has the Government taken to ensure that the review is not discredited by actual or potential conflicts of interest.

2509 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

2510 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General.

2511 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) How many import containers pass through each of the following ports (a) per day, and (b) per year: (i) Melbourne, (ii) Sydney, (iii) Brisbane, (iv) Fremantle, (v) Newcastle, (vi) Hay Point, (vii) Port Adelaide, (viii) Gladstone, (ix) Townsville, (x) Kwinana, (xi) Port Botany, (xii) Port Hedland, (xiii) Bunbury, (xiv) Port Kembla, (xv) Geelong, (xvi) Portland, and (xvii) Launceston.
- (2) How many import containers are inspected or scanned by Customs at each of the following ports (a) per day, and (b) per year: (i) Melbourne, (ii) Sydney, (iii) Brisbane, (iv) Fremantle, (v) Newcastle, (vi) Hay Point, (vii) Port Adelaide, (viii) Gladstone, (ix) Townsville, (x) Kwinana, (xi) Port Botany, (xii) Port Hedland, (xiii) Bunbury, (xiv) Port Kembla, (xv) Geelong, (xvi) Portland, and (xvii) Launceston.

2513 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) In respect of Telstra's new low income package "access for everyone", (a) which categories of pensioner are eligible for concessional rates and which are not, (b) have any categories of pensioner previously eligible for a concession been excluded from the new package, and (c) can he explain why was it decided that the categories of pensioner not eligible for a concession would not be eligible.
- (2) In respect of Telstra's claim on its web site that the new package includes a clarification of the definition of an eligible pensioner, (a) how has the definition been clarified, and (b) exactly how does the old definition differ from the new definition.
- (3) Why was it decided that pensioners would no longer be eligible for a discount on new telephone connections and what other discounts, rebates or other advantages available on the old package are not available on the new package.
- (4) What was the cost per annum of the old package for people on low incomes and how does this compare with the almost \$160 million worth of services claimed to be provided in "access for everyone".
- (5) In respect of obligations on Telstra to advertise and publicise its pensioner concession schemes, (a) what obligations, if any, does the Government currently impose, and (b) has any review been undertaken in regards to Telstra compliance with these requirements; if so, what was the outcome of that review or reviews.
- (6) Are eligible pensioners informed of Telstra's concession scheme when they apply for their pension at Centrelink.
- (7) Is the Minister able to say whether all eligible pensioners with a Telstra account are receiving a pensioner discount; if not, (a) why not, and (b) what proportion of eligible pensioners are estimated to be receiving a pensioner discount.

2514 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) In respect of Telstra line rental charges, what was the effect of line rental increases on Telstra's total domestic fixed-line revenue for 2002-2003 taking into account any rebalancing of call costs.
- (2) What was the effect on Telstra's 2002-2003 revenue of the cancellation of the neighbourhood call option.
- (3) Has the Government or Telstra modelled the effects of line rental increases on low income earners; if so, can the details of that modelling be provided.
- (4) What proportion of Telstra's domestic customers use HomeLine Budget, HomeLine Complete, and HomeLine Plus.
- (5) Is it the case that HomeLine Budget is not means tested and wealthy holiday house owners could take advantage of the comparatively lower line rentals offered in that package.
- (6) In respect of the HomeLine Budget package, has any research been undertaken by Telstra or the Government to establish whether the lower line rental costs actually help low income users given the significantly higher call costs associated with that package; if so, can a copy of that research be provided.
- (7) Is the Minister able to say (a) what proportion of Telstra's customers pay more for monthly line rental than they do for monthly calls under the new 2002 Telstra price control arrangements, and (b) how this compares with the former price control regime.
- (8) Under the Government's new price control regime, is the Minister able to estimate what will be (a) the highest amount Telstra will be able to charge consumers for monthly telephone line rental fee by mid-2005, and (b) in the event that the 2002 price control regime rolls over into 2005-2006, the

highest amount Telstra will be able to charge consumers for monthly telephone line rental fee by mid-2006.

2515 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) When did the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) first become aware that Mr Francis James Muller, a US citizen, was operating Foreign Currency International in Bangkok, Thailand.
- (2) When did ASIC first become aware of allegations against Mr Muller, and the Thai companies named Global Option Co. and Foreign Currency International, which are involved in foreign exchange speculation.
- (3) What action did ASIC take to assist the Thai police in their prosecution of Mr Muller.
- (4) What role did ASIC take in the Thai court case of Mr Muller.

2516 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) For each year from 1998 until 2003, in (a) Australia and (b) the electoral division of Bass, how many people have participated in the Work for the Dole Scheme.
- (2) Of those who have participated in Work for the Dole, how many subsequently found (a) full-time employment and (b) part-time or casual employment.
- (3) How many of those who found employment were still employed after (a) six months, and (b) 12 months.

2518 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) To date, how many applications for the Anniversary of National Service Medals (ANSM) have been received from applicants in the electoral division of Bass.
- (2) How many ANSMs have been issued to applicants residing in the electoral division of Bass.
- (3) What is the (a) average and (b) longest processing time for an ANSM application.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of complaints being made about the length of processing time and what steps is the Minister taking to ensure efficient and speedy processing of ANSM applications.

2520 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How much does it cost per day to hold someone in the Baxter Detention Centre.
- (2) How much did it cost to transport the Sawari family from Launceston to the Baxter Detention Centre, including the cost of the (a) charter flight, and (b) personnel who accompanied them.
- (3) What was the cost of the Migration Tribunal proceedings in relation the Sawari family after their apprehension and detention in the Baxter detention Centre.

2521 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) In respect of the Aged Care Approvals Round (Residential Care Places) in the electoral division of Bass, how many allocations were made in (a) 1999, (b) 2000, (c) 2001, and (d) 2002.
- (2) In respect of the allocations, (a) what is the name and address of each recipient, and (b) how many are provisional allocations more than two years old.
- (3) In respect of the provisional allocations that are more than two years old, what is the name and address of each recipient.

2522 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that there is a consent form on the back of the 2003 Tax Return For Individuals to authorise the ATO to use part or all of a taxpayer's 2002-2003 tax refund to repay the 2003 Family Tax Benefit overpayment to their spouse.
- (2) Is the Minister also aware that a taxpayer must obtain their spouse's permission to quote their CRN.
- (3) Can the Minister explain how the ATO is able to access a taxpayer's tax refund if the taxpayer does not sign the authorisation.
- (4) If the ATO is lawfully able to access a taxpayer's tax refund, could the Minister explain why the taxpayer is required to complete the authorisation.

2523 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the case of Mrs Freeman, a pensioner 86 years of age, who has received a debt notice of \$12,264.23 from Centrelink.

- (2) Is the Minister aware that Mrs Freeman recently received seven letters in separate envelopes on the one day advising her that she had incurred the debt between 1996 and 2003.
- (3) Can the Minister explain why Mrs Freeman had had no notification from Centrelink for seven years.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that in order for Mrs Freeman to repay the debt she may have to sell her home.
- (5) What does the Minister intend to do about this situation.

2525 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Can he confirm the report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 26 September 2003 that a dozen Australian weapons inspectors have been in Iraq for four months.
- (2) Is he able to say on what date Australian weapons inspectors were deployed in Iraq.
- (3) Can he explain how the Australian jurisdiction extended to Australians serving overseas by the *Crimes (Overseas) Amendment Act 2003* will apply to those Australian weapons inspectors who were deployed in Iraq before 1 July 2003.
- (4) Is he able to say how many Australian civilians were deployed in Iraq prior to 1 July 2003 and can he explain whether arrangements are in place, or planned, to extend Australian jurisdiction to them.

2526 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the ABC news report of 25 September 2003 in which it was stated that 40,000 Youth Allowance recipients who have been overpaid will be targeted in the coming period.
- (2) How many Youth Allowance recipients in the electoral division of Cunningham have been (a) overpaid and (b) overpaid amounts less than \$200.
- (3) How many Youth Allowance recipients in the electoral division of Cunningham who have been overpaid are students who incorrectly reported either their own or their parents' income.
- (4) How many Youth Allowance recipients in the electoral division of Cunningham who have been overpaid are expected to be taken to court to recover the overpayment.
- (5) Is Centrelink prepared to pursue overpayments through the courts for amounts under \$1,000.

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2527 - 2528)—

- (1) Is he aware of the (a) International Islamic Relief Organisation (IIRO), (b) World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY), and (c) The Charitable Foundations of al-Haramian.
- (2) Can he confirm whether the (a) IIRO, (b) WAMY, and (c) The Charitable Foundations of al-Haramian, is (i) listed by the United Nations as a terrorist group or a group funding terrorist organisations; if so, is it illegal to handle assets or provide finance to this group in Australia, and (ii) listed by the United Nations as having links with al-Qaeda and/or the Taliban; if so, is this group proscribed under the Criminal Code.
- (3) Which countries have proscribed the (a) IIRO, (b) WAMY, and (c) The Charitable Foundations of al-Haramian.
- (4) Does the Government have information indicating that these organisations (a) fund terrorist organisations, (b) are terrorist organisations themselves, or (c) have links with terrorist organisations.
- (5) Can he confirm whether (a) these organisations receive donations from the Saudi royal family, (b) these organisations are headed by Saudi Cabinet Members, (c) there are documented links between IIRO and al-Qaeda going back to 1989, (d) Bin Laden's brother-in-law, Muhammad Jamal Khalifa runs IIRO's Philippines office, (e) Muhammad al-Zawahiri, the brother of Ayman al-Zawahiri, a senior al-Qaeda figure, is employed in IIRO's Albanian office, (f) Kenya has proscribed the IIRO, (g) an IIRO employee was implicated in planning a terrorist attack in India, (h) there are documented links between IIRO and WAMY and Hamas, (i) Al-Haramain funds al-Qaeda operations in South East Asia, (j) Al-Haramain was the source of the US\$100,000 that the Jemaah Islamiah (JI) financier, Hambali, admitted was given to JI for the families of the Bali suicide bombers, but was instead used to fund the suicide bombing of the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta, (k) Al-Haramain's offices in Bosnia, Somalia and Azerbaijan were closed down for financing terrorist organisations, and (l) Canadian authorities recently closed the offices of WAMY and arrested its local operators for alleged involvement in al-Qaeda sponsored terrorism.
- (6) Is the Islamic Youth Organisation in Sydney affiliated to the WAMY.
- (7) Is he aware of allegations made before the US Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security of links between the Council of American Islamic Relations (CAIR) and the Islamic Assembly of North America (IANA) and various terrorist organisations.

- (8) Is he aware of any individuals or organisations in Australia who (a) have links to, (b) provide funding to, or (c) receive funding from CAIR or IANA; if so, who, and are they under investigation.
- (9) Is he able to say whether the (a) IIRO, (b) WAMY, and (c) The Charitable Foundations of al-Haramian, is present in Australia.
- (10) Is he aware of any individuals or organisations in Australia who (a) have links to, (b) provide funding to, or (c) receive funding from (i) IIRO, (ii) WAMY, or (iii) al-Haramain; if so, who, and are they under investigation.

2527 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

2528 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

MR DANBY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2529 - 2530)—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1645 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2003, page 14595), what was the outcome of the investigation into the IIRO.
- (2) Have any individuals been (a) arrested, and (b) charged.
- (3) Are there persons of interest in Australia.

2529 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

2530 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

2531 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware of the recent UN General Assembly resolution condemning Israel for its threat to expel Chairman Arafat from Israel.
- (2) Is he able to (a) provide the text of the original motion, (b) say who moved it, and (c) say whether any amendments were (i) moved; if so by whom, and (ii) successful.
- (3) Did Australia speak on the resolution; if so, would he provide the transcript of the speech.
- (4) In respect of the vote on the resolution, (a) how did Australia vote, (b) which countries voted (i) in favour, (ii) against, and (iii) abstained, and (c) what was the final vote on the resolution.
- (5) Is he able to say what Chairman Arafat's legal status within Israel and the occupied territories is, in particular, is he a citizen of Israel and on what basis does he live and travel within Israel.

2532 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) On what date was the decision made that legislation could not be used to force private health insurers to fund cochlear upgrades whilst the Private Health Insurance Regulatory Review is being conducted and what were the reasons for this decision.
- (2) What services does her department provide to assist adult implantees who do not qualify for Australian Hearing funding to access upgrades or be guaranteed an upgrade or replacement if they ever require reimplantation.
- (3) Is there an appropriate forum to involve the Implant Community in giving advice to health funds.
- (4) Is there a practicing paediatric audiologist who (a) reports to the department and advises on the needs of children with hearing problems and (b) who advises the department on matters affecting adult implantees.
- (5) On what clinical grounds does her department decide that the health funds are not obliged to fund second or replacement speech processors.
- (6) What 'whole of life' plan does her department have, or is her department developing, to ensure that cochlear implantees are catered for within the Health Act.
- (7) When can the cochlear community expect a decision on whether or not private health insurers will continue to be required to provide cochlear upgrades.

2535 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Are Australian rivers, lakes, and other waterways monitored to assess whether they are contaminated by pesticides; if so, (a) which agencies carry out this monitoring, (b) does the monitoring examine whether the contamination levels threaten their suitability for drinking water or for fish habitat, and (c) which waterways in Australia have been affected by pesticides or chemical contaminants.
- (2) Are Australian soil micro-organisms, Australian fish, Australian birds or Australian mammals tested to assess the effects of pesticide use with a view to establishing safe limits for pesticide use, similar to the work done by the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Environment Protection Authority.
- (3) What are the run off characteristics for commonly used chemicals on various Australian soil types.

- (4) What are the soil absorption rates for Australian soil types for commonly used pesticides.
- 2537 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Is the Government examining the implementation of a national solar cell policy for the installation of solar cells in all new buildings.
 - (2) Is the Government aware that the world's largest photovoltaic manufacturing plant has recently been completed in Spain using Australian developed technologies; if so, is he able to say why developers were forced overseas in order to commercialise this product.
 - (3) Does the Government support the establishment of a photovoltaic manufacturing plant in Australia; if so, what action, if any, is the Government taking to encourage the mass production of consumer grade solar cells in Australia.
 - (4) Has the Minister investigated the potential for solar cells to be installed on Australian rooves.
 - (5) Is it the case that the principal challenges facing traditional solar cell farms are the transportation and storage of electricity and that these issues are overcome by installing solar cells on roofs.
 - (6) Has the Government conducted any estimates of the amount of greenhouse gas emissions which could be saved in Australia through the widespread installation of solar cells on buildings, if so, what is the amount of greenhouse gas emissions which could be prevented in this way.
- 2538 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Was the Department of Environment and Heritage consulted in the preparation of environmental guidelines for projects supported by the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC).
 - (2) Is the Minister satisfied that the environmental guidelines approved in 2000 are adequate to ensure the environmental sustainability of projects supported by the EFIC.
 - (3) Is the Minister aware of the proposed Sepon Copper and Gold Mine in Laos and the EFIC's planned role in granting political risk insurance for this venture.
 - (4) Does the existing national environmental legislative framework in Laos meet the EFIC environmental guidelines.
 - (5) Does the impact of the proposed new project on water quality and fisheries satisfy the environmental guidelines.
- 2546 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—How much of Australia's land (a) was salt affected in 1990, (b) was salt affected in 1996, and (c) is salt affected now.
- 2548 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) How much money has been spent through the National Heritage Trust (NHT) in total as at 30 June 2003.
 - (2) How much of the money spent through the NHT has been (a) spent on reports or studies, (b) paid to consultants, and (c) paid to farmers.
- 2549 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Does he have any involvement in the discussions or negotiations surrounding the proposed Australia-US Free Trade Agreement.
 - (2) Is it the case that the proposed agreement contains a dispute settlement mechanism enabling any proposed investor to take action against any Australian environmental law which restricts trade.
 - (3) Would such a provision diminish Australian sovereignty and, in particular, diminish Australia's capacity to protect its environment.
- 2550 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) How much money has been spent through the National Action Plan on Salinity and Water Quality in total as at 30 June 2003.
 - (2) How much of the money spent through the National Action Plan on Salinity and Water Quality has been (a) spent on reports or studies, (b) paid to consultants, and (c) paid to farmers.
- 2553 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) What information does the Government have concerning the likely size of the hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica between now and December.
 - (2) Is it likely that the hole in the ozone layer will be larger than that which occurred in 2002; if so, to what extent.

8 October 2003

2558 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—What is the current (a) national, (b) State, and (c) regional waiting time under Home and Community Care programs for (i) lawns and gardening, (ii) podiatry, (iii) physiotherapy, and (iv) diversional therapy.

2559 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What data is available on the number of children in Australia on waiting lists for an autism/autism spectrum disorders (ASD) assessment.
- (2) What data is available on the waiting times for children to have autism/ASD assessment.
- (3) In respect of Table 5.6 on page 70 of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report *The burden of disease and injury in Australia*, what data was used to estimate that autism represents Australia's fourth highest burden of disease and injury for boys aged 0 to 14 years.
- (4) Is the AIHW planning to review health outcomes for people with developmental delay; if so, when will the result of this review be available.
- (5) How much (a) in total, and (b) as a proportion of the National Health & Medical Research Council funding will be spent on research specifically related to autism/ASD in (i) 2003, and (ii) 2004.
- (6) How much (a) in total, and (b) as a proportion of the Australian Research Council funding will be spent on research specifically related to autism/ASD in (i) 2003, and (ii) 2004.
- (7) Will he identify any other funding programs or projects being conducted specifically in respect of the treatment for autism/ASD in Australia.
- (8) Does the Government direct or intend to direct any funding specifically to autism/ASD research in Australia.
- (9) How does the proportion of Government research funding spent on autism/ASD compare to the relative burden autism/ASD imposes on the Australian community.
- (10) Is the Government aware of any data on the financial cost to Government when people with autism are not treated appropriately.
- (11) What data is available on the long-term cost-benefit resulting from evidence-based treatment of children with autism (eg. as a result of the reduced need for intensive services when the child becomes an adult).
- (12) What data is available on the direct cost to Government of caring for Australians with a diagnosis of autism/ASD.

2561 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) For the electoral division of Throsby and for each year of the Family Tax Benefit system's operation, how many families and/or individuals (a) in total, and (b) as a proportion of all Family tax benefit recipients, have an outstanding debt to the Commonwealth due to the overpayment of the Family Tax Benefit.
- (2) For the electoral division of Throsby, what is the (a) total amount of Family Tax Benefit debt, (b) average amount of debt per family, and (c) average income of the families and/or individuals that have incurred a debt.
- (3) For the electoral division of Throsby and for each year of the Family Tax Benefit system's operation, (a) how many debts have been referred to debt collectors, and (b) how many debts are currently with debt collectors.
- (4) For the electoral division of Throsby and for each year of the Family Tax Benefit system's operation, how many families and/or individuals who have incurred a Family Tax Benefit debt chose to repay their debt with a credit card.

2563 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many Job Network providers are currently operating in the electoral division of Throsby, what are their names and where are their offices located.
- (2) How many job seekers are currently registered with (a) each Job Network provider, and (b) each office of each provider in the electoral division of Throsby.
- (3) For the years (a) 1998, (b) 1999, (c) 2000, (d) 2001, (e) 2002, and (f) 2003, in (i) Australia and (ii) the electoral division of Throsby, how many Newstart or Youth Allowance recipients were placed into jobs through assistance from Job Network providers.

- (4) For the electoral division of Throsby and for the years (a) 1998, (b) 1999, (c) 2000, (d) 2001, (e) 2002, and (f) 2003, how many long-term unemployed people (a) in total, and (b) as a proportion of all unemployed people, participated in intensive assistance.
- (5) For the electoral division of Throsby and for the years (a) 1998, (b) 1999, (c) 2000, (d) 2001, (e) 2002, and (f) 2003, how many of the people who have participated in intensive assistance have participated on (a) one occasion, (b) two occasions, (c) three occasions, and (d) on more than three occasions.
- (6) For the electoral division of Throsby and for the years (a) 1998, (b) 1999, (c) 2000, (d) 2001, (e) 2002, and (f) 2003, (a) how many job seekers who participated in intensive assistance found employment, and (b) what proportion found (i) full-time, (ii) part-time, and (iii) casual employment.
- (7) How many work for the dole providers are currently operating in the electoral division of Throsby, who are they, where are they located and what programs do they offer.
- (8) For the electoral division of Throsby and for the years (a) 1998, (b) 1999, (c) 2000, (d) 2001, (e) 2002, and (f) 2003, (a) how many of people who participated in a work for the dole program found employment, (b) what proportion found (i) full-time, (ii) part-time, and (iii) casual employment following their placement, and (c) how many of were in (i) full-time, (ii) part-time, and (iii) casual employment after 3 months.

2566 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is he aware of the remarks of His Honour Justice Michael Kirby who drew attention to his view on the death penalty during his address in Melbourne to mark the Centenary of the High Court of Australia and, in particular, is he aware of Justice Kirby's statement that imposing the death penalty is the ultimate acknowledgement of the failure of civilisation.
- (2) What was his response to the poll conducted in August 2003 in which 56 percent of the respondents replied that they were in favour of the death penalty for those found guilty of committing major acts of terrorism.
- (3) Can he confirm that he is opposed to the death penalty for all crimes and that he will campaign against those who promote the re-introduction of capital punishment.

2568 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is there evidence of irresponsible or wasteful use of the Pharmaceuticals Benefits Scheme (PBS); if so, what is that evidence.
- (2) What is the cost to taxpayers of the Government's (a) electronic media, (b) print media, and (c) pamphlet campaign titled *Here's the prescription for a healthy Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme* featuring Dr James Wright.
- (3) What is the amount of the fees paid to Dr James Wright for this advertising campaign.
- (4) How will the effectiveness of this advertising campaign be measured.
- (5) When will details of this evaluation be made available to the public.

9 October 2003

2569 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What changes to the UN human rights committee system were discussed at the Attorney-General's meeting in Geneva with the UN Acting High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and ambassadors from 10 other countries.
- (2) Which 10 countries were represented at the meeting.
- (3) What were the outcomes of the meeting.

2570 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of concerns expressed by New South Wales Magistrate, Mr Paul Lyons, about the operation of the Commonwealth Witness Protection Program, reported in *The Australian* on 19 September 2003.
- (2) What steps is the Government taking to address these concerns.

2571 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In which federal court and tribunal registries is there a duty solicitor available to assist unrepresented litigants.
- (2) For each instance where there is a duty solicitor available, who provides the duty solicitor and what is the annual cost.

2572 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many people in the electoral division of Throsby received a (a) Baby Bonus payment of any amount, (b) Baby Bonus payment of \$2,500, and (c) Baby Bonus payment of \$500 in 2002-2003.
- (2) How many people in the electoral division of Throsby have applied for a Baby Bonus payment in 2002-2003 and been rejected.

2573 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is it the case that the Lodge has been used by Prime Ministers as an official residence since the election of the Lyons Government in 1931.
- (2) Is it the case that Kirribilli House was refurbished in 1957 as a residence for use by visiting guests of the Commonwealth and the Prime Minister when in Sydney.
- (3) Is he aware that Kirribilli House was referred to in a paper presented to the Cabinet Amenities Committee in 1957 “as an additional residence available to the Prime Minister in Sydney as necessary”.
- (4) Is he aware that Kirribilli House was never intended to be the primary residence of the Prime Minister.
- (5) How many days has he spent at (a) the Lodge, and (b) Kirribilli House in (i) 1996-1997, (ii) 1997-1998, (iii) 1998-1999, (iv) 1999-2000, (v) 2000-2001, (vi) 2001-2002, and (vii) 2002-2003.
- (6) What was the cost of maintaining (a) the Lodge, and (b) Kirribilli House in 2002-2003.
- (7) How many staff are currently employed at (a) the Lodge, and (b) Kirribilli House.
- (8) What has been the cost of (a) his, and (b) his staff’s travel between Sydney and Canberra in (i) 1996-1997, (ii) 1997-1998, (iii) 1998-1999, (iv) 1999-2000, (v) 2000-2001, (vi) 2001-2002, and (vii) 2002-2003.
- (9) Does he recall that his major reason for residing at Kirribilli House was that he had dependent children.
- (10) Does he still have dependent children; if not, why does he maintain Kirribilli House as his primary residence.

2574 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—

- (1) What was the total expenditure on child care in 2002-2003.
- (2) What was the expenditure on family day care centres in 2002-2003.
- (3) What was the level of Commonwealth funding for each of the family day centres in the electoral division of Prospect in 2002-2003.
- (4) Is the Government aware of analyses that estimate the return on Government investment in child care is twelve times the value of expenditure allocated; if so, will he guarantee that funding for family day care will not be reduced or abolished.

2575 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware of the Colombian Presidential Directive 07 issued on 9 September 1999 which requires all government officials, both civilian and military, to refrain from questioning the legitimacy of human rights organisations and their members; making statements that discredit, persecute, or incite persecution of said organisations; or making public or private declarations that stigmatise the work of these organisations.
- (2) Is he aware of a speech by Colombian President Álvaro Uribe Velez on 8 September 2003 in which he referred to human rights defenders as “Politickers at the service of terrorism, cowardly waving the human rights banner, who try to give back to terrorism the space that the Armed Forces and ordinary citizens have taken away from them in Colombia.” and that “Every time a security strategy is implemented in Colombia to defeat terrorism, when the terrorists start feeling under threat, they immediately dispatch their spokesmen to talk about human rights.”
- (3) Is he able to say whether the security of human rights defenders in Colombia has been affected by these statements; if so, (a) in what way, and (b) on what does the Government base this assessment.
- (4) Has the Government made any representation to the Colombian Government relating to the implications of these public statements; if so, (a) by whom, (b) to whom, (c) when, and (d) what was the response of the Colombian Government; if no representations have been made, why not.
- (5) Since the speech of 8 September 2003 has the Government made any representation to the Colombian Government in support of human rights organisations operating in Colombia; if so, (a) by whom,

- (b) to whom, (c) when, and (d) what was the response of the Colombian Government; if no representations have been made, why not.
- (6) Is he aware of the Colombian Ministry of Defence Directive 09 of 8 July 2003 which requires the State Security Forces to protect the work of human rights organisations and reiterates the applicability of the Presidential Directive 07 and that it “be strictly applied”.
 - (7) Is he aware of a report published on 17 September 2003 by the Office in Colombia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights titled *The Importance of the Protection and Defence of Human Rights Defenders*; if so, does the Government support the recommendations of this report.
 - (8) Is he aware of the recent decision by the Colombian Constitutional Court to allow the Colombian Inter-Ecclesiastic Commission for Justice and Peace to bring a lawsuit against General Rito Alejo del Río who was Commander of the XVII Brigade in Urabá between the years of 1995 and 1997; if so, is he able to say when this decision was made.
 - (9) Is he aware of (a) claims by General Jorge Enrique Mora Rangel on 21 August 2003 in which the Community of Cacarica, Chocó, was described as “a site of concentration with barbed wire where nobody can come or go without the order of Justice and Peace” and that “in the settlements there is a constant presence of the FARC”, and (b) the response by the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman which said that “This does not correspond with reality and could put at risk the communities living there”.
 - (10) Has the Government made any representation to the Colombian Government expressing its concern for the security of members of the Inter-Ecclesiastic Commission for Justice and Peace and for the civilian population of the Community of Cacarica; if so, (a) by whom, (b) to whom, (c) when, and (d) what was the response of the Colombian Government; if not, why not.

MR KERR: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2577 - 2579)—

- (1) Does any Australian statistical office, department or agency have responsibility for gathering information on child labour in Australia and, in particular, the worst forms of child labour.
- (2) What arrangements exist to ensure cooperation between Australian law enforcement agencies and those of other countries with respect to the identification, arrest and prosecution of offenders involved in child prostitution, use of children for pornography and child sex tourism.
- (3) What assistance targeted at the elimination of the worst forms of child labour is Australia providing to other countries.
- (4) Does Australia have a national program of action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour.

2577 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

2578 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

2579 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2580 - 2581)—

- (1) Has the Minister seen a report by Sue Dunlevy titled “US may force up prescription drug prices” in *The Daily Telegraph* on 22 September 2003.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm whether US free trade negotiators have asked Australian officials for information on how Australian patent and intellectual property rules affect US pharmaceutical companies; if not, why not.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm whether US negotiators or US pharmaceutical companies are targeting the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) price control mechanisms as part their Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA) negotiations; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the proposed AUSFTA threaten the PBS; if so, how; if not, why not.
- (5) Can the Minister guarantee that the PBS will be exempted from any further AUSFTA negotiations; if not, why not.
- (6) Can the Minister guarantee that any final AUSFTA will not undermine the PBS and lead to increases in the price of essential medicines; if so, how; if not, why not.

2581 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

2582 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1552 (*Hansard*, 7 October 2003, page 20694), what are the changes to bankruptcy law aimed at preventing people using bankruptcy in an improper way.
- (2) Why has it taken the Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia and the Attorney-General's Department since February 2003 to brief him on options to progress this matter.

- (3) Will he introduce legislation to ensure that the individual who has been bankrupted on twelve occasions cannot ever be declared bankrupt again; if so, when; if not, why not.

13 October 2003

2584 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Has he been sent material by the Yorta Yorta Elders Council and the Victorian National Parks Association concerning their proposal for a jointly managed Barmah-Millewa National Park.
- (2) Is he investigating this proposal in the light of this information; if so, what is his response to this proposal.

2585 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is he aware of a report by scientists from the University of Canberra and CSIRO Resource Futures which found that almost 60 percent of Australia's fisheries are over-fished and that this could increase to 68% by 2020.
- (2) Is he able to say whether this assessment is correct.
- (3) Does the report identify the WA Snapper Fishery as being under particular threat.
- (4) What action is the Government taking to address the issue of over-fishing of these fisheries.

2587 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What is the number of Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) holders in Australia.
- (2) How many TPV holders reside in each federal electoral division.
- (3) How many TPVs will expire at the end of (a) 2003, (b) 2004, and (c) 2005.
- (4) How many TPV holders are under (a) 16, and (b) 25 years of age.

2588 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2267 (*Hansard*, 8 October 2003, page 20856), what preliminary analysis indicates a downward pressure on the rate of increase of non-government school fees.
- (2) What will be the total cost of Socio-Economic Status (SES) index-based funding before a definitive analysis of the effect of the SES funding model is publicly available.

2589 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Can he confirm that he received a letter dated 1 October 2003 from a paediatric orthopaedic surgeon at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, saying, that as a direct result of the Federal Government's levy to cover incurred but not reported claims, five of his colleagues are resigning from the hospital and he will be the only remaining orthopaedic surgeon.
- (2) What is he doing to ensure that this surgeon and his colleagues do not resign from the Sydney Children's Hospital on 1 January 2004.

2590 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many British citizens who are not Australian citizens in (a) Australia, (b) Queensland, and (c) the electoral division of Bowman are eligible to vote in Federal elections.
- (2) Does the Government have any plans to change the voting rights of these British citizens in the future.

2591 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Would he provide details on the (a) activities, (b) services, and (c) items purchased for jobseekers out of Jobseeker Account funds between 1 July 2003 and 30 September 2003 including (i) the amount of funds spent on each category, and (ii) the number of jobseekers who were assisted.
- (2) What was the monetary value of the (a) activities, (b) services, and (c) items purchased from Job Network providers or their associated companies and businesses (i.e. engaged in reverse marketing).
- (3) How many long-term (i.e. unemployed more than 12 months) jobseekers have had (a) \$0, (b) \$1-\$300, (c) \$301-\$600, and (d) more than \$600 spent from of their Jobseeker Accounts.

2592 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Would he provide a breakdown by Employment Service areas of the number of jobseekers expected to enter the Job Network in (a) 2003-2004, (b) 2004-2005, and (c) 2005-2006, distinguishing between eligible Job Network jobseekers and Job Search Support jobseekers.

- (2) Would he also provide details by Employment Service areas of the number of jobseekers that his Department anticipates will enter (a) Intensive Assistance–Job Search Training, (b) Intensive Assistance–Customised Assistance (first period), and (c) Intensive Assistance–Customised Assistance (second period) in (i) 2003–2004, (b) 2004–2005, and (c) 2005–2006.

MR KERR: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2596 - 2597)—

- (1) When and where was the UN Protocol to Prevent Suppression and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children opened for signature.
- (2) Which states have (a) signed, and (b) ratified the convention.
- (3) Has Australia (a) signed, and (b) ratified the convention; if not, why not.
- (4) With what, if any, obligations of a ratifying state does Australia not currently comply.

2596 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

2597 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

2598 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Does he support the finding in the "Review of the National Airspace System and Competition for Airport Related Services Report" prepared by Wes Willoughby & Associates and tabled in the House of Representatives, that \$71.61 million per annum can be saved in air traffic control costs through the introduction of the National Airspace System; if not, (a) why not, and (b) what is his estimate of the potential savings.
- (2) Who prepared advice for him on the veracity of the costings in this report.

14 October 2003

2601 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2373 (*Hansard*, 13 October 2003, page 21067), is he aware of reports of a 'systematic information warfare campaign' by Chinese government authorities on Taiwanese private companies and Taiwanese governmental authorities in an effort to paralyse the nation's computer systems.
- (2) Is he aware of reports in *Ha'aretz* of 5 October 2003 that Iranian hackers have attempted to disrupt Israeli electricity supplies by hacking into the Israel Electric Corporation's computers.
- (3) What action is the Government taking to ensure that Australia is not subject to similar cyber attacks.

2602 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is he aware that last week the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's (ABC) Independent Complaints Review Panel upheld 17 of 68 complaints of alleged bias brought by his predecessor in relation to the ABC's coverage of the Iraq war.
- (2) What guidelines exist to assist the Panel to ensure fair investigation of the complaints brought against the ABC.
- (3) Did the Panel speak with any of the broadcasters or ABC news staff who were the subject of his predecessor's complaints; if so, (a) to whom, and (b) what are the details of those enquiries; if not, why not.
- (4) What action is he taking to ensure that future investigations conducted by the Panel are undertaken in accordance with natural justice and procedural fairness principles.

2603 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of allegations that persons detained as part of the war on terror, potentially including Australian citizens David Hicks and Mamdouh Habib, are being subjected to treatment that amounts to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- (2) What has he done to investigate these allegations.
- (3) What was the outcome of any such investigations.

15 October 2003

2604 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—In respect of his column in the *Sunday Age* on 12 October 2003, which education reforms and budgetary improvement measures did the Government promise at the last federal election that are now being blocked by the Senate.

- 2605 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—What assessment has the Government made of the possible impact of a housing downturn on non-deposit-taking financial institutions and associated mortgage insurers and what does this assessment show.
- 2606 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Did he announce on 25 September 2002 that the Government would be acting upon all the recommendations of the 2001-2002 Review of Statutory Self-Regulation of the Migration Advice Industry, otherwise known as the Spicer Report.
 - (2) What action, if any, has the Government taken to implement recommendation 25 of the report to ensure faster and more effective investigation and prosecution of unregistered agents and agents involved in fraud.
 - (3) What specific action has his department taken to (a) attach higher priority to investigations of unregistered practice, (b) build stronger relationships with the Director of Public Prosecutions to facilitate prosecution and the finalisation of cases, (c) revise its guidelines to staff on referring to investigation units cases of suspected unregistered practice or fraud to improve the quality of information referred and the speed of referral, and (d) undertake wider publicity of prosecutions of unregistered practice.
- 2608 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) In which States and Territories have primary dispute resolution (PDR) services been established by Legal Aid Commissions.
 - (2) For each State and Territory, (a) what has been the cost of providing these services in each financial year they have been operating, and (b) what is the budgeted cost of providing these services in future years.
 - (3) For each State and Territory, how are these PDR services delivered.
 - (4) For each State and Territory and for each financial year these services have been operating, how many grants of legal aid have been given for PDR and what was the average size of each grant.
- 2609 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is he aware of his predecessor's statement on 15 December 1999 that "there is evidence that some experienced private lawyers are unwilling to take on legal aid cases".
 - (2) What steps has he taken to inform himself of the extent to which private lawyers have withdrawn from performing legal aid work under the current legal aid funding agreements.
 - (3) For each State and Territory, how many private practitioners have performed legal aid work under the current legal aid funding agreements.
 - (4) Is he or his department aware of any research, reports or submissions which address this issue; if so, what are the details.
 - (5) What steps has he taken or will he take to arrest the decline in the number of private lawyers undertaking legal aid work.
- 2610 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is he or his department aware of any research, reports or submissions which address the relationship between legal aid policies and levels of self-representation before courts and tribunals; if so, what are the details.
 - (2) What steps is he taking to address the number of Australians going before courts and tribunals without legal representation.
- 2612 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Has he seen the report by Rosslyn Beeby titled "NFF calls for live export inquiry" in *The Canberra Times* on 27 September 2003.
 - (2) How many sheep have already died on the current voyage of the *MV Cormo Express*.
 - (3) What is the highest number of livestock deaths on an Australian live export voyage.
 - (4) How many sheep die each year on ships involved in the Australian live export trade.
 - (5) Will he support an inquiry examining all aspects of the live export trade; if so, when will it be established; if not, why not.

2613 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Will the levy to cover incurred but not reported (IBNR) claims be imposed on all members of the medical profession; if not, (a) which doctors will be liable for the impost, (b) which doctors will be exempt, and (c) can he explain why some doctors will be exempt.
- (2) Has the Medicare rebate ever reflected the rising cost of medical indemnity insurance; if so, when.
- (3) Has the Government ever provided rebates to compensate for the rising costs of medical practice; if so, when.
- (4) What measures has the Government taken to curb the rising costs of negligence claims within the court system; if no action has been taken, why not.
- (5) Is he able to say which types of claims result in the most awards for damages by the courts.
- (6) Is he taking action to prevent an anticipated rise in patient fees to cover an anticipated rise in damages awards; if not, (a) why not, and (b) when will action be taken.
- (7) What is the anticipated impact on the number of medical practitioners being compelled for liability and financial reasons to cease practice as a direct consequence of the imposition of the IBNR levy; if no analysis has been done, (a) why not, and (b) when will it done.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2614 - 2631)—

- (1) How much money was spent on Government advertising by the Minister's department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio, in the financial years ended 30 June (a) 1997; (b) 1998; (c) 1999; (d) 2000; (e) 2001; (f) 2002; and (g) 2003.
- (2) How much money has been spent to date on Government advertising by the Minister's department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio, since 1 July 2003.

2614 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

2615 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

2616 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

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2630 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

2631 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

2632 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Has he seen the report titled "Media laws bill to front Senate again" which appeared in *The Australian* on 14 October 2003.
- (2) Can he confirm the accuracy of that part of the report that reads "Mr Williams, who has confessed to being reasonably uneducated about his new portfolio, said the bill would be presented to the Senate again before the end of the year".
- (3) Is he aware that (a) News Limited is an Australian subsidiary of News Corporation owned and controlled by Mr Rupert Murdoch, (b) News Limited has interests in more than 100 national, regional and suburban newspapers throughout Australia, (c) in terms of its share of circulation within Australia, News Limited has approximately two thirds of the capital city and national newspaper market; three quarters of the Sunday newspaper market, almost 50% of the suburban newspaper market and almost one quarter of the regional newspaper market, (d) News Limited has a one quarter

stake in Foxtel's pay television and News Interactive online and (e) News Limited has additional media interests in AAP Information Services.

- (4) Is he also aware that (a) Publishing and Broadcasting Limited (PBL) is an Australian media company which is chaired by Mr James Packer and which owns and controls the Nine Television Network and the magazine publisher Australian Consolidated Press, (b) the largest shareholder in PBL is Mr Kerry Packer, (c) PBL owns and controls three metropolitan and one regional television licences giving it a reach of more than half of the potential audience, (d) in terms of pay television, PBL has a one quarter interest in Foxtel and a one third interest in Sky News, (e) PBL publishes more than 65 magazines and its share of the circulation of the top thirty Australian magazines is approximately 40% and (f) PBL has a joint on-line operation known as ninemsn.
- (5) Can he confirm that if the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 becomes law Mr Packer's media company would be allowed to buy Fairfax and Mr Murdoch's media company would be allowed to buy an Australian television network.
- (6) Can he explain how such further concentration of media ownership in Australia is in the public interest and good for Australia's democracy.
- (7) Will he now abandon this bill; if not, why not.

2633 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) In respect of the Longline Fishing Threat Abatement Plan for Albatross, (a) what has been the outcome of the targeted observer program, and (b) has the by-catch of seabirds during oceanic longline fishing operations been reduced.
- (2) Does the Government have estimates of the number of albatross killed by longline fishing for the years (a) 1998, (b) 1999, (c) 2000, (d) 2001, and (e) 2002; if so, what are the details.
- (3) Will he provide details of the resources involved in this program (eg. funding, staff and time etc) since 1998.
- (4) Why was there a delay between recognition of the Threat Abatement Plan Observer Program as a necessary action and the commencement of the program in September 2001.
- (5) When will trials of mitigation measures become standard practice.

2634 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware that when persons under the age of 55 apply for the early release of their superannuation on the grounds of financial hardship, they must have been in receipt of Commonwealth income support payments for a continuous period of 26 weeks.
- (2) Is it the case that the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Regulations 1994 do not classify Austudy or Youth Allowance as a Commonwealth income support payment for the purpose of determining financial hardship in the assessment of eligibility for the early release of superannuation; if so, why are these benefits not classified as Commonwealth income support for this purpose.
- (3) Can he explain why a family which is under severe financial hardship should be prevented from accessing the early release of its superannuation because the father is receiving Austudy.
- (4) Will he consider amending the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Regulations 1994 to include Austudy as a Commonwealth income support payment for the purpose of determining financial hardship for the early release of superannuation.

MR KERR: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2635 - 2636)—

- (1) Is he able to say what the International Bar Association's (IBA) view is regarding the United States of America's treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- (2) Does the Australian Government's assessment differ from the IBA's; if so, in what way.
- (3) Do the statements of the IBA's task force on terrorism coincide with a statement from the International Red Cross (IRC) condemning the indefinite detention without trial of those held at Guantanamo Bay and noting that the IRC had found a "worrying deterioration" in the detainees' mental health.
- (4) Will he detail all the representations made to the United States on behalf of Australian nationals held at Guantanamo Bay.
- (5) Do any of these representations include submissions drawing attention to the IBA's or the IRC's conclusions; if not, why not.

2636 **MR KERR:** To ask the Attorney-General.

16 October 2003

2639 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware of the detention by the French government of Mr Nizar Nayouf in September 2003; if so, has he been charged and what are the charges.
- (2) Can he confirm that Mr Nayouf was imprisoned in Syria for nine years; if so, (a) why, (b) what had he done prior to being arrested by the Syrian authorities, (c) was he considered to be political prisoner by Australia, and (d) when was he released.
- (3) Can he confirm that Mr Nayouf was invited to attend a conference organised by the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies in Washington DC, USA, to speak on Syria's record of human rights and political reforms.
- (4) Did the Australian government have any representatives at the conference and is he able to say who spoke at the conference and what the outcomes of the conference were.
- (5) Is it the case that the French government indicated that Mr Nayouf must not attend the conference in the United States on Human Rights in Syria.
- (6) Does the Australian government share the view of the government of the United States of America that the Syrian government has not done enough to combat international terrorism.

2640 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—For the financial year 2002-2003, what was the total number of (a) humanitarian refugee stream migrants, and (b) family stream migrants born in English Proficiency (EP) group 3 and 4 countries who settled in each area covered by the respective Migrant Resource Centres and Migrant Service Agencies.

2641 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) For the last financial year for each Migrant Service Agency (MSA) and Migrant Resource Centre (MRC), (a) what client statistics exist to show how many clients of each service have been assisted by each MSA and MRC, and (b) what funding did each centre receive during the period for which the statistics are available.
- (2) Have all MRCs and MSAs now introduced the department's Statistical Information System for recording clients established; if not, what is the reason for the failure to meet departmental requirements

2642 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—For each of the last two financial years, (a) what was the cost to airlines for unauthorised air arrivals placed in detention centres, (b) what was the cost to each airline to return unauthorised air arrivals back to their countries, (c) what was the average time that the unauthorised arrivals have remained in detention, (d) how many unauthorised air arrivals lodged immigration applications, and (e) how many unauthorised air arrivals had successful migration outcomes and, of these, (i) how many were successful protection visa applications, and (ii) from which countries did they originate.

2643 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each of the last two financial years, (a) how many people have arrived by ship as stowaways and, of these stowaways, (i) how many applied for protection in Australia, (ii) what was the citizenship of each applicant, and (iii) how many were successful.
- (2) For each of the last two financial years, (a) what was the cost of processing the stowaways in detention, including the cost of processing protection applications, and (b) was any of the cost of handling such unauthorised sea arrivals recovered from the shipping company involved; if not, why not.

2644 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each of the last two financial years, how many prosecutions has his department launched under sections 229 or 230 of the Migration Act and, in each case, (a) against whom were the prosecutions launched, and (b) what was the outcome.
- (2) For each of the last two financial years, how many infringement notices were imposed under paragraph 504(1)(j) of the Migration Act in lieu of the penalty for breach of the provisions under section 229 or 230 of the Act, and in each case, (a) against which airline carrier were the breaches imposed, and (b) how much was the penalty against each carrier.

2645 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For the financial years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, (a) how many people jumped ship, (b) what was the cost of detention and removal of these people, (c) how many of these people lodged immigration applications, (d) what was the average time ship jumpers remained in detention, and (e) what was the (i) nature, (ii) outcome, and (iii) country of origin of each applicant.
- (2) For the financial years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, how many ship jumpers were granted protection visas each year and, of these, how many have not been finalised.
- (3) What payments under the Migration Act were made by each shipping company for the cost of detention and removal of each ship jumper.
- (4) Is it the case that there is no requirement under the Customs Act to notify the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) of all ship entries and the number of crew on each ship.
- (5) For the financial years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, did the Australian Customs Service (ACS) checks of details of all crew and passengers on each ship entering Australia against ACS and DIMIA alert lists and reports show any persons of concern on any ship; if so, (a) on how many occasions, (b) what were the names of the ships involved, and (c) in which country were the ships registered.

2646 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many Work for the Dole participants have received a placement with a private sector (commercial) business since the commencement of the program.
- (2) Which industries and sectors do these businesses operate (eg child care, health care, etc.).

2647 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—In respect of the report titled “Media laws bill to front Senate again” (*The Australian*, 14 October 2003) which claimed that the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 will be presented to the Senate again before the end of this year, and the report titled “Minister opens clearer line of communications” (*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 October 2003) which states that he confirmed that the cross-media laws bill was unlikely to be debated by the Senate until next year, will he clarify the conflicting reports on when the bill will be re-introduced and debated in Parliament; if not, why not.

2648 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many families in the electoral division of Bowman received less than their full entitlement to Family Tax Benefit in 2000-2001 due to the one-year time limit on claiming lump sum payments.
- (2) What will the Government be doing to ensure these families receive their rightful entitlement to Family Tax Benefit.

2649 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What monitoring and/or studies have been or are currently being undertaken to ascertain the potential impact live firing at the Lancelin Defence Training Area has on (a) air quality, including impacts from lead carbonate and calcium resinate, (b) ground and surface water, and (c) land and soil.
- (2) What monitoring and/or studies have been or are currently being undertaken to ascertain the potential impact live firing at the Lancelin Defence Training Area has on (a) ecological systems, (b) local communities, and (c) socio-economic conditions in nearby areas; and have any studies previously been undertaken to ascertain the potential impacts of live firing.
- (3) What monitoring and/or studies have been or are currently being undertaken to ascertain the potential impact live firing at the Lancelin Defence Training Area has on the karst system below and around the Lancelin Defence Training Area.

2650 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) In respect of the preparation of a Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for Port Phillip Bay, (a) when will the Government conclude negotiations for the preparation of the Plan, (b) who will be contracted to prepare the Plan, (c) when will the contract conclude, and (d) when will the draft Port Phillip Bay WQIP be accredited.
- (2) Have interim water quality projects have been funded in (a) Douglas Shire, (b) Adelaide’s Port Waterways, (c) the Peel-Harvey.
- (3) In respect of the Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI) projects for Port Phillip Bay, (a) what funds are committed to interim projects, and (b) what projects have been proposed or are being negotiated.

- (4) What is the relationship between the CCI WQIP and interim projects for Port Phillip Bay and the Regional Catchment Strategy.
- (5) What coastal water quality planning process will be used to protect water quality in Western Port and how does this differ from the CCI approach.
- (6) In respect of the Peel-Harvey System, a coastal Ramsar listed wetland threatened by poor water quality and Western Port, a Ramsar listed wetland threatened by poor water quality, (a) why is Western Port not “an obvious priority for Commonwealth investment” under the Coastal Catchments Initiative, and (b) why are the Gippsland Lakes also not “an obvious priority”.
- (7) In respect of the announcement on 24 July 2003 of \$110,000 funding under the CCI to improve the Yarra River, (a) is this project linked to protection of Port Phillip Bay and the proposed WQIP announced on 18 July 2003, (b) has this project been identified as a cost-effective measure to protect Port Phillip Bay water quality, and (c) on what basis was this project funded under the CCI.

2651 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) In respect of the projects in the *Investment Strategy for the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan for the Mount Lofty Ranges and Greater Adelaide Region*, (a) in which projects will the Commonwealth invest, (b) why will it make these investments, and (c) how will these investments contribute to addressing and protecting Matters of National Environmental Significance or improvements in water quality.
- (2) In respect of the announcement on 3 September 2003 of \$49.3 million for the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) projects in South Australia’s Upper South Region, (a) how much of the \$49.3 million is derived from the \$14 billion announced for the NAP, (b) what proportion does this represent of the total NAP monies dedicated to this Region during the life of the NAP, (c) in respect of one of the announced projects which has a biodiversity trading component, (i) what is the service being traded, (ii) who is purchasing this service, (iii) what monetary value is being placed on the biodiversity, and (iv) what risk was the biodiversity facing otherwise, and (d) how much of the \$20 million drain construction project is acquitted against the \$350 million commitment.
- (3) What criteria are used in deciding (a) how much information will be made publicly available when NAP and National Heritage Trust (NHT) projects are announced, and (b) what information is made available on the internet in relation to NAP and NHT funded projects.
- (4) Is the Government intending to make available on the internet a regular update of acquittal of projects against the \$350 million commitment to water quality improvement, on a project by project basis, with an explanation of the assessed contribution; if not, why not.
- (5) In respect of the announcement on 22 May 2003 of the draft Reef Water Quality Protection Plan which noted the “Commonwealth’s commitment to the reef over the next four years is \$124.8 million”, will the Minister provide a breakdown of this commitment and set out, by program area, by financial year, (a) the envirofund, (b) regional delivery of the NAP and NHT (by region), and (c) national component programs such as the Reef Water Quality Wetlands Program that make up the \$124.8 million commitment.

2652 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What funds will be available in 2004–2005 to initiate new Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIP).
- (2) In respect of the media release dated 10 August 2003 which announced a series of “interim water quality projects” for Adelaide’s Port Waterways, is the Government intending to fund interim projects for the (a) Derwent Estuary, (b) Peel Harvey, (c) Douglas Shire, (d) Moreton Bay, and (e) Port Phillip Bay; if so, (i) what projects are proposed at this stage, and (ii) how much is planned to be spent on interim projects in each of these coastal areas.
- (3) In respect of interim water quality projects, (a) how are they identified and assessed for suitability, (b) what types of projects are typically being funded and why, and (c) what criteria or guidelines are used for funding interim projects.
- (4) In respect of the statement that “there are no plans to further expand the Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI) in the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) at this stage”, how does he reconcile this position with (a) his statement on 30 January 2003, which “encouraged other local governments and catchment groups adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef to consider preparing water quality improvement plans for their area with assistance available under the Commonwealth’s Coastal Catchments Initiative”, and (b) the May 2003 draft Reef Water Quality Protection Plan.

- (5) In respect of the advice that only \$55,000 is available during 2003-2004 for development of water quality plans in the GBR and that this is allocated to Douglas Shire, (a) has he misled the Queensland community in encouraging their interest in the CCI, (b) has the draft Reef Water Quality Protection Plan also misled the GBR community on the true capacity of the CCI to assist them to improve GBR water quality.
- (6) In respect of the advice that WQIPs and the findings of these Plans will be incorporated into Regional National Resource Management (NRM) Plans, (a) will the Government give priority to investing through regional investment strategies in the implementation of WQIPs, (b) will this be made clear to Regional NRM bodies and local governments that develop these Plans, and (c) will this planning and investment model be used elsewhere.

2653 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What is the relationship between advice provided to regional bodies on implementation of national strategies through regional National Resource Management (NRM) Plans and the criteria/key elements used by the department to assess consistency with those national strategies.
- (2) In respect of this advice (a) are the regional bodies finding it useful, (b) have the regional bodies provided feedback on it, and (c) does the department envisage the review of these national strategies in light of experiences in implementing these national strategies through the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) and National Heritage Trust (NHT).
- (2) Are the protection and management of World Heritage Areas, Ramsar wetlands and other relevant matters of National Environmental Significance (NES) priorities for Commonwealth investment in implementation of regional NRM plans; if so, (a) will the Minister provide an example of how or where this is the case, and (b) has the Government formally issued advice to regional NRM plans on the Government's priorities for investment.
- (3) Will the Minister explain how the accredited (a) Glenelg-Hopkins, (b) Mallee, (c) Mount Lofty Ranges, and (d) Greater Adelaide Regional Catchment Strategies implement key elements of the *National Water Quality Management Strategy*, the *National Principles for the Provision of Water for Ecosystems* and the *National Framework for the Management and Monitoring of Australia's Native Vegetation*.
- (4) In respect of the press release dated 23 December 2002, (a) why did the Government continue to promote expenditure on a project that concluded in 1999-2000, and (b) why did the Government persist in promoting a project that degraded the environment and would no longer meet current funding guidelines.
- (5) Are flood mitigation works being funded under any priority NAP or NHT projects; if so, in the Murray Darling Basin, do any of the draft or accredited NRM plans or investment strategies propose construction of flood mitigation works; if so, will NAP or NHT monies be spent on flood mitigation works.
- (6) When will accredited NRM plans be made available on or through the NAP or NHT websites.

2654 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Will he provide a copy of his department's Natural Resource Management (NRM) Programme Delivery Advice document #1: Acquittal of investments against the commitment to spend at least \$350m of Trust funds "directly on measures to improve water quality".
- (2) Will he provide a copy of other NRM Programme Delivery Advice documents.
- (3) Who are these advice documents prepared for, who uses them and why are they not available on the internet.

2655 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI) the Government's major program to reduce pollution discharges to coastal water quality "hotspots", such as Port Phillip Bay and the Great Barrier Reef; if not, how does the Government intend to achieve this objective.
- (2) Is it the case that the achievement of ecologically sustainable pollution discharges for these hotspots will require informed and strategic investments over the long term, probably over several Parliaments; if so, how will the CCI or other programs ensure an informed and long term approach.
- (3) What level of investment does the Government consider it necessary to make to achieve sustainable pollution loads at coastal water quality hotspots.
- (4) How much does the Government intend to invest in each urban water quality hotspot during the financial period 2003-2007.

- (5) What is the CCI budget for (a) 2003-2004, (b) 2004-2005, (c) 2005-2006, and (d) 2006-2007.
- (6) Will the Government be seeking to implement the CCI in other Victorian coastal hotspots; if not, why not.
- (7) The CCI seeks to protect “environmental values” through addressing both water quality and environmental flows, (a) how is this defined, and (b) why is this approach not being used to protect all coastal wetlands of international significance.
- (8) Where the Government does not implement the CCI to protect the Great Barrier Reef, (a) what planning processes will be used to address water quality and environmental flows in these sub-catchments, (b) will the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) and National Heritage Trust (NHT) Regional Planning process be used.
- (9) Will he explain the water quality planning requirements under the NAP/NHT and show how this process is comparable to the process outlined in the “Framework for Marine and Estuarine Water Quality Protection”.
- (10) Has the Government been approached by the local government or Regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) Bodies with an interest in developing Water Quality Improvement Plans in the Great Barrier Reef catchment; if so, (a) which bodies and local governments have expressed an interest, (b) which sub-catchments would these proposals represent, (c) why has action not been taken to date, (d) when will the CCI be implemented in additional catchments of the Great Barrier Reef, and (e) what will be the likely priority sub-catchments.
- (11) In respect of the draft Reef Water Quality Protection Plan (RWQPP) which identifies possible priority catchments for management action based on an ecological risk assessment, do the high risk catchments represent priorities for implementation of the CCI.

2656 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) In respect of the media release dated 19 June 2003 which announced \$12.7 million of Commonwealth investment under the National Heritage Trust (NHT) in Western Australia of which \$5 million will help regional groups develop Natural Resource Management (NRM) Plans, what is the remaining \$7.7 million being spent on.
- (2) What percentage of funds to implement Regional NRM Plans will be spent on ambient environmental monitoring and what does the Government consider to be a responsible benchmark value for investing in monitoring activities.
- (3) In respect of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) website titled “A natural resource management overview” (www.napsqw.gov.au/publications/nrm%20overview.html) which notes that “Governments will invest in regional plans based on clear targets and appropriate monitoring to ensure the best natural resource management outcomes”, (a) does this mean that the Government will only invest in actions directly linked to targets, (b) will the Government only invest in actions for which there are “appropriate” monitoring arrangements, and (c) what is meant by “appropriate” in the context of salinity and water quality monitoring.
- (4) In respect of the importance of water quality, acknowledged in both the NAP and the NHT, what are the Government’s minimum water quality monitoring requirements to be addressed in a regional NRM plan for it to invest in water quality improvements.
- (5) In respect of the NAP website titled “A natural resource management overview” which notes that “The extension includes a \$350 million commitment to water quality issues.”, (a) what does “commitment to water quality issues” mean, and (b) is this different to the actual Government commitment to spending “directly on measures to improve our water quality”.
- (6) What are the specialist advisory bodies referred to on the NAP website titled “A natural resource management overview” which notes that for NHT regional NRM plans “there is an iterative process of feedback and advice from all levels of Government and specialist advisory bodies leading up to accreditation...”.
- (7) In respect of the NAP website titled “A natural resource management overview” which notes that “plans need to make a commitment within three years of signing the bilateral agreement, to have in place, or significant progress to, the establishment of a minimum set of regional resource condition targets”, is this minimum set the same minimum set of 10 resource condition matters for targets under the Standards and Targets Framework.
- (8) How will property rights and water pricing lead to improved water quality or dryland salinity as stated on the NAP website titled “A natural resource management overview” which notes that

“clarification of property rights and appropriate pricing of water is fundamental in the management and remediation of water quality and salinity”.

- (9) Are there any NAP or NHT program areas that directly support institutional reform and capacity building, or the establishment of market-based instruments or economic-incentives, as an offset to the non-binding nature of the reform commitments made under the bilateral agreements.

2657 **MS GILLARD:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How many people in Australia were, and what proportion per 100,000 of population was, diagnosed each year for the last ten years with (a) Autism, (b) Asperger’s Syndrome, and (c) Pervasive developmental disorders or autism spectrum disorders and related disorders.
- (2) What are the comparable international rates of diagnosis (either an international average or figures for comparable nations).
- (3) Is the Government aware of (a) the availability of diagnostic services for autism and related disorders in each State and Territory, and (b) any waiting lists for diagnostic services; if so, how long are the waiting lists.
- (4) Does the Government have any evidence indicating that Australian children are being diagnosed incorrectly with autism; if so, (a) to what extent, and (b) by whom.
- (5) Does the Government have any evidence indicating that Australian children are being diagnosed incorrectly with Asperger’s syndrome; if so, (a) to what extent, and (b) by whom.
- (6) Is he aware of the value of intensive behavioural programs in reducing the requirements of children with autism for special education and other costly interventions (*Medical Journal of Australia* 2003; 178 (9): 424-425) and does the Government provide any policy, coordinating or monitoring role in relation to these services.
- (7) In respect of these programs in each State and Territory, does the Government collect any information on the (a) availability in each State and Territory, (b) funding, (c) level of intensity, (d) evidence of effectiveness, (e) specialist supervision by State and Territory governments of service delivery, (f) number and proportion of children with autism accessing an intensive behavioural program, and (g) parental involvement; if so, can this information be provided for the most recent year available.
- (8) Does the Government have any information on comparative health outcomes for Australians with developmental disabilities; if so, can this information be provided for the most recent year available.
- (9) Does the Government have any specific plans to further investigate, review or improve the health outcomes of Australians with intellectual and developmental disabilities; if so, what are the details.

23 October 2003

MR RUDD: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2658 - 2660)—

- (1) Which Australian government departments and agencies are involved in working contacts with Egyptian court authorities regarding the forthcoming trial in Egypt (resuming on 25 October 2003) of the alleged people smuggler Mootaz Muhammad Hasan (aka Abu Quassey).
- (2) Is he able to confirm that the charge against Abu Quassey is the manslaughter of 350 people who drowned when their boat sank on its way from Indonesia to Australia in October 2001 as was reported by Reuters and ABC News on 7 September 2003; if not, what is the exact charge against Abu Quassey.
- (3) Is he able to confirm the report titled “Egypt court accepts Australian help” in www.news.com.au on 29 September 2003 which stated that the charge has been reduced to lesser charges of “causing death by mistake” and “aiding and abetting the entry of aliens without effective travel documents”.
- (4) If the charge has been reduced, was this done at the advice of Australian authorities; if so, which authorities and for what reasons.
- (5) Is he able to confirm the reports in the Australian press on 8 September 2003 that the Australian Federal Police (AFP) offered to Egyptian prosecutors for use in the trial “a brief of evidence and witness statements gathered from the 45 survivors” from the sinking of SIEV X.
- (6) Has the AFP offered Egyptian authorities a brief of evidence and witness statements obtained from SIEV X survivors who now reside in Australia on temporary protection visas (TPV); if so, (a) how many survivors in Australia provided witness statements to the AFP, and (b) what other forms did this evidence take.

- (7) Is it the case that the Egyptian court has accepted an Australian offer of assistance to prosecute Abu Quassey.
- (8) Where is the Quassey trial taking place and will the court proceedings be held in public.
- (9) Is it the case that Australian Federal Police recently revisited some of the SIEV X survivors living in Australia and offered to take them to Egypt to testify in the Quassey trial; if so, is it also the case that the Australian government offered to cover the costs of their travel and that some survivors have accepted this offer.
- (10) Were guarantees given by Australian authorities to SIEV X survivors living in Australia that if they were to go to Egypt to testify in this trial they would be able to return to Australia after testifying; if so, do the guarantees take the form of a waiver of the conditions of their TPVs that leaving Australia for any reason would result in the automatic cancellation of their TPV.
- (11) Has he been advised that the higher the number of survivors of the SIEV X sinking who are able to testify in sworn statements or in person before the Egyptian court, the better chance the court will have to establish the facts of the case and to ensure that justice is done and seen to be done.
- (12) Has he been advised that, if there is not available to the court a body of broadly-based oral or written testimony from a large number of SIEV X survivors, the provision of oral or written testimonies from the few survivors who are currently residing in Australia will place a heavy evidentiary burden on this small number of testimonies.
- (13) Can he confirm that there are up to 78 surviving persons who are, subject to considerations of age and health, potentially available to testify in this trial.
- (14) What is the Australian Government doing to encourage and assist the Egyptian Government to establish contact with the large number of SIEV X survivors who are known to be living in other countries that accepted them as refugees.

2658 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Attorney-General.

2659 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Attorney-General.

2660 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Attorney-General.

2661 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) When will decisions to classify internet content be made available on the online classification database maintained by the Office of Film and Literature Classification.
- (2) What work remains to be completed by the Government before this can occur.

2662 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of the report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 16 October 2003 titled “Family Court leaves assets in wealthy wife’s name”.
- (2) Has he informed himself of the judgment referred to in this article.
- (3) What steps does he propose to take to address the issues raised in that judgment.
- (4) Will he consider these issues as part of the current review of the interaction of family law and insolvency law.

2663 **MR BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Does the Government accept the classification of Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD), including autism, as clinical conditions by the American Psychiatry Association, in the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* published in 1994; if not, why not.
- (2) If this classification is accepted, (a) how have services for people with autism changed to reflect the clinical nature of autism, and (b) what clinical attention and intervention is provided for people with these conditions by the Australian health system.
- (3) Does the Government have any information on the unmet demand for the clinical treatment of autism; if so, what.
- (4) In respect of the finding reported at the first World Autism Congress held in Melbourne last year that a significant number of mental health patients in Australia who do not respond to treatment for schizophrenia were found to have undiagnosed autism spectrum disorders, (a) what is the Government doing to improve the detection of autism spectrum disorders in mental health patients, and (b) will the Government act to ensure that the treatment provided for people with multiple diagnoses that include autism spectrum disorders is effective for their combination of conditions.

2664 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—

- (1) How many Child Support Agency (CSA) clients currently reside in the electoral division of Cunningham.
- (2) How many parents liable to pay child support (a) in total, and in the (b) CSA collect, and (c) private collect groups had administrative assessments amended to the 'Over \$260' range in the 12 months prior to 30 June 2003.

2666 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) In respect of the statements made by Mr Jon Evans, Acting CEO of Western Health, at the Melton Health and Aged Care Forum, held at Melton Community Hall on the 3 October 2003 regarding a hospital services report by the Victorian Department of Human Services, can he confirm that the number of patients treated by the Sunshine Hospital Emergency Department increased by 5.1% from March to June 2003.
- (2) Can he confirm that the number of patients treated by the Western Hospital Emergency Department increased by 4.3% from 2002 to 2003.
- (3) Can he confirm that 10% more people attended Western Health Emergency Departments than in the previous year.
- (4) Can he confirm that 70% of this increase in Emergency Department presentations was in Triage categories 4 and 5.
- (5) Is he aware that, according to Western Health, patients are increasingly presenting at emergency departments with minor illnesses because of the shortage of GPs in the West, and because of the lack of bulk-billing doctors.

24 October 2003

2667 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the legislation governing child support requires the Child Support Agency (CSA) to reconcile an estimate where a parent has underestimated their annual income but makes no legislative provision for the CSA to amend an assessment where a client overestimates their annual income.
- (2) What should a parent do if he or she finds they have paid more to the CSA than they were required to according to the terms of their assessment.

3 November 2003

2668 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2031 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18983), in respect of the Review of Structural Management, is it the case that 'G' meter print outs for the Mirage show that tolerances were exceeded and not reported and that major cracks to the old wing spar were not inspected within the hourly limit set by the RAAF extension of life program.
- (2) How many Freedom of Information (FOI) requests by Captain Mackelmann, Craig Mackelmann's father, were refused and why.
- (3) Is it the case that documents obtained under FOI by Captain Mackelmann reveal evidence which was not produced to the inquiries; if so, (a) why was this evidence not produced, and (b) why will it not be reviewed now.
- (4) Why was the Accident Investigation Team (AIT) report not made available to the Coroner and to Captain Mackelmann during the coronial inquiry.
- (5) Why was the AIT report withheld from Captain Mackelmann for almost 6 years and then provided only after intervention by the Ombudsman.
- (6) Were two differing transcripts of the same tape recording made by the AIT and were both withheld from the coronial inquiry.
- (7) Is the Minister aware that Captain Mackelmann claims to have evidence indicating that the tape has been manipulated in a way which would explain the seven second time difference.
- (8) Can the Minister explain how the transcript of the tape used at the Board of Inquiry (BOI) and provided to the Coroner put F/Lt Riley further back behind Craig Mackelmann than he was in the transcript used by the AIT.

- (9) Has the possibility that F/Lt Riley committed a breach of Air Force Orders and was being protected been investigated; if not, why not.
 - (10) Is there actual evidence which supports the RAAF assertion that no guns were fired; if so, why does the RAAF refuse to provide it to Captain Mackelmann.
 - (11) Did the RAAF witnesses interviewed by the Ombudsman regarding the downloading of the returned ammunition unload F/Lt Riley's aircraft; if not, who did and why were they not interviewed.
 - (12) Did the BOI inquire into whether proper radio procedures were being followed at the time of the accident; if so, what were its findings; if not, why not.
 - (13) Has the Minister personally reviewed the transcript of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) proceedings.
 - (14) Was Air Commodore Ford represented at the AAT hearing by Barrister Logan and Solicitors from the Crown Law Office at Commonwealth expense.
 - (15) Was similar legal assistance offered or provided to the Mackelmann family; if not, why not.
 - (16) In what ways did Air Commodore Ford's evidence to the AAT differ from the evidence he had given to the Ombudsman and the Durack review.
 - (17) Why did Defence try to prevent Captain Mackelmann obtaining a copy of Air Commodore Ford's interview with Senator Durack.
 - (18) Was Air Commodore Ford's interview with Senator Durack instrumental in challenging Air Commodore Ford's testimony to the AAT.
 - (19) Did the AAT ask the RAAF to conduct a further search for the gun camera cine film from the returned aircraft.
 - (20) Was this film provided for and viewed by (a) Air Commodore Ford when he was President of the BOI, and (b) another member of the BOI named Alexander; if so, what happened to it.
 - (21) Is the Minister able to explain (a) whether a breakdown in radio procedures occurred prior to the accident, (b) whether it is correct procedure for a pilot to hear an "off safe" from the previous pilot on a banner before calling "in live", and (c) what the purpose is of the "off safe" and "in live" calls.
 - (22) Does the AIT transcript of the radio calls show F/Lt Riley "in live" 32 seconds after Craig Mackelmann called "in live" with no "off safe" call made by Craig Mackelmann; if so, will the Minister explain whether this is a breach of range safety standing orders.
 - (23) Has the possibility that F/Lt Riley had made an incorrect "in live" call and been too close to Craig Mackelmann been investigated; if not, why not.
 - (24) Has Captain Mackelmann's hypothesis in respect of the accident been considered; if so, what evidence (a) supports it, and (b) contradicts it; if not, why not.
 - (25) Do the Range Standing Orders state that it is preferable for the Range Safety Officer to be a non-participating pilot.
 - (26) Was F/Lt Riley the Range Safety Officer at the time of the accident and what authority, if any, did the civil pilots in the tug aircraft "with Range Safety Officer responsibilities inherent in its role" have over F/Lt Riley.
 - (27) Should the civil pilots have reacted when F/Lt Riley called "in live" before Craig Mackelmann called "off safe"; if so, how; if not, why not.
- 2669 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—What were the (a) names, (b) street addresses, and (c) hours of operation of organisations that were part of the Job Network in the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752 on 1 June 2003.
- 2670 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) What Work for the Dole projects were funded during 2003 in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Scullin, and (c) the electoral division of McEwen and which agency was responsible for each project.
 - (2) What is the (a) location and (b) activity of each of the Work for the Dole projects in part (1).
 - (3) How many (a) males, and (b) females are or were employed on each 'Work for the Dole' project in part (1).
 - (4) What is the number of participants (a) 16, (b) 17, (c) 18, (d) 19, (e) 20, (f) 21 to 25, and (g) more than 25 years of age that were employed on each 'Work for the Dole' project in part (1).

2671 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) For each calendar year since 1996, how many people who reside in the postcode areas (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752 were enrolled in (i) University, and (ii) Vocational Education and Training.
- (2) For each calendar year since 1996, how many people who reside in the postcode areas (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752 were enrolled in a (i) bachelor degree, and (ii) postgraduate degree.

2672 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) How many people with an outstanding or accumulated HECS debt reside in the postcode areas (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752.
- (2) How many people with an outstanding or accumulated HECS debt not enrolled in tertiary studies reside in the postcode areas (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752.
- (3) What is the level, in dollar terms, of outstanding or accumulated HECS debt of people who reside in the postcode areas (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752.

2673 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) For 2003, in each of the postcode areas (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752 what sums were provided to (i) government, and (ii) non-government schools.
- (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2003.
- (3) For 2004, in each of the postcode areas (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752 what sums will be allocated to (i) government, and (ii) non-government schools.
- (4) What will be the (a) expenditure on, (b) location, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2004.

2674 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—

- (1) How many Child Support Agency clients reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (2) How many youth allowance recipients reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2675 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many Newstart allowance recipients reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (2) How many Family Payment recipients who received more than the minimum payment reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752.
- (3) How many disability support pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (4) How many age pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (5) How many parenting payment single recipients reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2676 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many Health Care Card recipients reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

- (2) How many Health Care Card recipients not receiving a Centrelink payment, pension, benefit or equivalent payment, reside in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 2677 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Attorney-General—What is the incidence of reported crime by type in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 2678 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—What sums were allocated in local government financial assistance grants in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004 to the (i) City of Whittlesea, (ii) City of Banyule, (iii) Shire of Nillumbik, and (iv) City of Darebin.
- 2679 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Trade—
- (1) How many companies in the electoral division of Scullin have received export assistance in (a) 2001, (b) 2002, and (c) 2003.
 - (2) In each instance, what was the (a) name of the company, (b) sum received, and (c) purpose of each grant.
- 2680 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) What projects did the Australia Council fund in the Melbourne metropolitan area in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, and (c) 2002-2003.
 - (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location, and (c) purpose of each grant.
- 2681 **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, (ii) 2002-2003, and (iii) 2003-2004.
 - (2) For each community based child care centre, what is the amount of funding paid as (a) operational subsidy, (b) special needs subsidy, (c) establishment grants, and (d) block grant assistance (transitional assistance).
 - (3) Which Commonwealth funded child centres located in the electorate of Scullin have been overpaid and what sum will each child care centre be asked to repay.
- 2682 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—
- (1) 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, and (ii) Victoria.
 - (2) 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 the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 2683 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit in the electoral division of Scullin received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 2684 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is the Government considering removing branded pharmaceuticals from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) list.
 - (2) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (3) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled during (a) 2002-2003 and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
 - (4) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for concession card holders during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (5) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for concession card holders during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
 - (6) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for non-concession card holders during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.

- (7) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for non-concession card holders during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (8) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$23.10 during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (9) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$23.10 during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (10) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$3.70 during (a) 1998-1999, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002, (e) 2002-2003, and (f) 2003-2004, in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (11) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$3.70 during (a) 1998-1999, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002, (e) 2002-2003, and (f) 2003-2004 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2685 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals who reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003, in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) What was the total number of individuals who reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003, in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of families that reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003, in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (4) What was the total number of families that reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003, in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (5) What was the total number of families that registered for the Medicare Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003, in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (6) What was the total number of families that registered for the Medicare Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003, in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2686 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals who reached the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) What was the total number of individuals who reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of families that reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (4) What was the total number of families that reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2687 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Concession Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Concession Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Concession Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (4) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Concession Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2688 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Entitlement Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) What was the total number of individuals with a Safety Net Entitlement Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Entitlement Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (4) What was the total number of families with a Safety Net Entitlement Card in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2689 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) What percentage of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (3) What was the total number of Medicare services provided during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (4) What was the total number of Medicare services provided during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (5) How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (6) How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (7) What percentage of Medicare services were provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin
- (8) What percentage of Medicare services were provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2690 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) What was the total number of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescriptions filled for Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) treatment card holders during (a) 1998-1999, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002, and (e) 2002-2003 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) What was the total number of PBS prescriptions filled for DVA treatment card holders during (a) 1998-1999, (b) 1999-2000, (c) 2000-2001, (d) 2001-2002, and (e) 2002-2003 in the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

2691 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the capital gains tax rollover relief available in section 126-5 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* is only available to heterosexual married or de-facto couples because of the definition of 'defacto' in section 995-1 of the same Act.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that when same-sex couples break up they may have to pay capital gains tax in circumstances in which heterosexual couples would not.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the recent ruling by the United Nations Human Rights Committee in the case of *Young v Australia*.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of the statement of the Prime Minister on 24 August 2001 to the effect that he is opposed to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.
- (5) Is the Minister considering changes to the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* to ensure that same-sex and opposite-sex couples are treated similarly when relationships break down; if not, why not; if so,

when will the Minister introduce legislation to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

2692 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Can he confirm reports that Saudi Arabia never intended to accept the live sheep on the *Cormo Express*; if so, what evidence is there to support this claim.
- (2) Can he confirm that (a) no transport for the sheep was present, and (b) no stevedores or wharf labourers were present when the ship docked in Saudi Arabia; if so, (i) is this normal practice when live sheep arrive in Saudi Arabia, and (ii) what preparations are usually made in Saudi Arabia at a port receiving live sheep.
- (3) Is he aware of reports that elements of the Saudi government rejected the sheep for either political or commercial reasons.
- (4) Has he seen the report in *The Australian* of 28 October which stated “the sheep stranded at sea were refused by Saudi Arabia not because they were diseased but in retaliation for Australia’s role in Iraq. The Government has not admitted it, but a former ambassador to Riyadh does.”; if so, (a) what credence does he place on this report, and (b) is he able to name the former Ambassador who made the statement.
- (5) Who (a) is the current Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and (b) were the previous Ambassadors since 1996.
- (6) What reason (a) was given by Saudi Arabia for the rejection of the sheep, and (b) was actually behind the rejection of the sheep.
- (7) Were the sheep inspected on their arrival in Saudi Arabia; if so, by whom.
- (8) To which countries did the Government try to offload the sheep before the agreement was made with Eritrea.
- (9) Is he aware of attempts by Saudi Arabia to induce any third country not to accept the sheep; if so, what were they.
- (10) Is he aware of any representations by the Saudi government to any other government about the sheep; if so, is he able to say (a) to which governments representations were made, and (b) what was the content of the representations.
- (11) Which government departments were involved in negotiations with other countries about the fate of the sheep.
- (12) At what level were the negotiations conducted and did he have any personal involvement in the negotiations.

2693 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many diplomats from Saudi Arabia are accredited to the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Canberra.
- (2) What are their functions.
- (3) With which Embassy officials has the Australian government been negotiating the issue of live sheep exports.
- (4) Has the Government called in any Saudi Arabian diplomats to explain the actions of the Saudi government in relation to the live sheep issue; if so, what explanation has been given.

2694 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) With which countries did he or his officials conduct negotiations over the receipt of the sheep on the *Cormo Express* after their rejection by Saudi Arabia.
- (2) Can he confirm reports that Saudi Arabia never intended to accept the live sheep on the *Cormo Express*; if so, what evidence is there to support this claim.
- (3) Can he confirm that (a) no transport for the sheep was present, and (b) no stevedores or wharf labourers were present when the ship docked in Saudi Arabia; if so, (i) is this normal practice when live sheep arrive in Saudi Arabia, and (ii) what preparations are usually made in Saudi Arabia at a port receiving live sheep.
- (4) Is he aware of reports that elements of the Saudi government rejected the sheep for either political or commercial reasons.
- (5) Has he seen the report in *The Australian* of 28 October which stated “the sheep stranded at sea were refused by Saudi Arabia not because they were diseased but in retaliation for Australia’s role in Iraq. The Government has not admitted it, but a former ambassador to Riyadh does.”; if so, (a) what

credence does he place on this report, and (b) is he able to name the former Ambassador who made the statement.

- (6) What reason (a) was given by Saudi Arabia for the rejection of the sheep, and (b) was actually behind the rejection of the sheep.
- (7) Were the sheep inspected on their arrival in Saudi Arabia; if so, by whom.
- (8) To which countries did the Government try to offload the sheep before the agreement was made with Eritrea.
- (9) Is he aware of attempts by Saudi Arabia to induce any third country not to accept the sheep; if so, what were they.
- (10) Is he aware of any representations by the Saudi government to any other government about the sheep; if so, is he able to say (a) to which governments representations were made, and (b) what was the content of the representations.
- (11) Which government departments were involved in negotiations with other countries about the fate of the sheep.
- (12) At what level were the negotiations conducted and did he have any personal involvement in the negotiations.
- (13) Can he say whether Mr Lachlan Gosse, a member of the panel appointed by him to investigate the live sheep issue, is a relative of the Foreign Minister; if so, is this a potential conflict of interest.

2695 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of concerns expressed by New South Wales Magistrate, Mr Paul Lyons, about the operation of the Commonwealth Witness Protection Program, reported in *The Australian* on 19 September 2003.
- (2) What action is the Government taking to address these concerns.

2696 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) In the electorates of Western Sydney, how many Remote Integrated Multiplexer line splitting services have been connected in each electorate and how many are proposed to be connected in each electorate over what time frame.
- (2) What compensation, if any, is available to subscribers who have been denied the opportunity of connecting broadband services; if no compensation is payable, why not.
- (3) Has the Telecommunications Authority been advised of the situation; if so, what action has it taken or does it propose to take.
- (4) Has the Government conducted any review of line splitting; if so, (a) when, (b) who conducted the review, and (c) what was the outcome.

2697 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is he aware that many of the recommended plants included in the “Flora for Fauna” scheme administered by the Nursery and Garden Industry Australia under the Environment Australia Natural Heritage Trust are privately owned cultivars that do not occur in nature and are protected by Plant Breeders Rights, and that authentic Australian plants are not the sole focus of “Flora for Fauna”.
- (2) Is he aware that the propagation of artificial hybrids and cultivars results in genetically identical clones that contribute nothing to biodiversity.
- (3) Is he aware of CSIRO findings that artificial hybrids hybridise with naturally occurring species, contaminating the local gene pool.
- (4) Is he aware that artificial hybrids with enlarged flowers attract aggressive, territorial, non-endangered birds such as the Noisy Miner to the detriment of the Eastern Spinebill, Regent Honeyeater and other endangered birds.
- (5) Can he explain the basis of the claim that the “Flora for Fauna” program enhances biodiversity and environmental education.

2698 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Will he confirm that the Treasury Department has rejected the proposal for the introduction of a federal levy on plastic bags.
- (2) What was the rationale for the Treasury Department’s decision.
- (3) Did the Treasury Department complete any modelling as to the cost of the proposed federal levy; if so, what did this modelling demonstrate.

4 November 2003

2699 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question Nos 2382 and 2383 (*Hansard*, 3 November 2003, page 21832), in respect of the UN Human Rights Committee's ruling in *Young v Australia*, is she aware that it stated "the Committee wishes to receive from the State party, within 90 days, information about the measures taken to give effect to its views".
- (2) Can she confirm that the 90 days expires on 4 November 2003; if so, has the Government responded to the Human Rights Committee and would she provide a copy of the response to the House.
- (3) Is the Government considering changes to section 5E of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* to eliminate discrimination against people on the basis of sexual orientation; if not, why not; if so, when will the Government introduce legislation to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

2700 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Further to the answer to question Nos 2382 and 2383 (*Hansard*, 3 November 2003, page 21832), in respect of the UN Human Rights Committee's ruling in *Young v Australia*, is he aware that it stated "the Committee wishes to receive from the State party, within 90 days, information about the measures taken to give effect to its views".
- (2) Can he confirm that the 90 days expires on 4 November 2003; if so, has the Government responded to the Human Rights Committee and would he provide a copy of the response to the House.
- (3) Which other Commonwealth laws, payments, taxes and levies treat opposite-sex de-facto couples differently from same-sex couples.
- (4) Is the Government considering changes to these laws to ensure that opposite-sex de-facto couples and same-sex couples are treated similarly; if not, why not; if so, when will the Government introduce legislation to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

2701 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is it the case that Rio Tinto has received a \$35 million loan over 20 years from the Government to look at a safe way of capturing carbon dioxide emitted from coal-fired power stations; if not, how much money, if any, did it receive and on what terms.
- (2) What, if anything, has the Government done to investigate the possible use of wave energy.
- (3) Is he aware of the Australian company Energetech.
- (4) Can Energetech or other companies utilising home-grown Australian technology in the wave energy arena seek Commonwealth funding; if so, from what source.
- (5) Is he aware that the company Energetech is in danger of being controlled by overseas interests if it cannot raise local funding.

2702 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What was the total amount of the Federal Government funding for the development of the 'Green Star' rating tool by the Green Building Council of Australia.
- (2) Has the Green Building Council of Australia briefed the Federal Government on the progress of the implementation of the green star rating tools.
- (3) As a condition of the Government's funding of the green star rating system, was there a requirement for the Green Business Council of Australia to submit to a performance review of the program's implementation to ensure stated objectives are reached; if so, (a) what criteria were established to evaluate the green star rating tools performance, (b) has this review occurred, and (c) what were the outcomes of this performance review.
- (4) Is the Government aware of concerns that Federal Government funds allocated to implement the green star rating tool program were used by the Green Business Council of Australia to counter stakeholder criticisms of the program.
- (5) Is it feasible under the green star rating tool to achieve high ratings whilst scoring zero credits for energy and greenhouse performance.

2703 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What evidence has he been provided of the current population status of the Southern Bluefin Tuna.

- (2) Is he aware of the nomination by the Humane Society International of the Southern Bluefin Tuna for listing of the species as endangered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
 - (3) Can he confirm that scientific data suggest that less than five percent of the original global population of the Southern Bluefin Tuna remains; if so, does the Minister support the listing of Southern Bluefin Tuna as an endangered species.
 - (4) What action will the Government take to ensure the long-term survival of the Southern Bluefin Tuna.
- 2704 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is Browns Plains, in the Logan West area of Queensland, classified as an outer metropolitan area for the purposes of the Government's Outer Metropolitan workforce incentive programs; if not, why not;
 - (2) If Browns Plains is classified as an outer metropolitan area for the purposes of the Government's Outer Metropolitan workforce incentive programs, is it also classified as (a) a District of Workforce Shortage, and (b) an Area of Consideration; if not, why not.
 - (3) When did the Department last assess Browns Plains' eligibility for (a) Outer Metropolitan, (b) District of Workforce Shortage, and (c) Area of Consideration status.
 - (4) Does the Department intend to reassess Browns Plains' eligibility for (a) Outer Metropolitan, (b) District of Workforce Shortage, and (c) Area of Consideration status.
 - (5) What criteria does the Department use to assess eligibility for (a) Outer Metropolitan, (b) District of Workforce Shortage, and (c) Area of Consideration status.
 - (6) Is the Government giving consideration to the placement of a Medicare Office at Browns Plains; if so, what is the status of that consideration.
- 2705 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many Australians who served in Iraq in Operation Bastille were (a) 18, (b) 19, and (c) 20 years of age.
 - (2) How many Australians who served in Iraq in Operation Falconer were (a) 18, (b) 19, and (c) 20 years of age.
 - (3) Were the rates of pay paid to service personnel who served in these operations when they were under 21 years of age the same as those for service personnel 21 years of age or older in the same or comparable positions; if not, on what basis were the lower rates of pay calculated.
- 2706 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Is an upgrade proposed for the Kelso radio tower; if so, (a) what will it involve, and (b) when will it take place.
- 2707 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—What is the percentage of unreferred (GP) attendances bulk billed in the Bass electorate for the quarter ending (a) June 1996, (b) September 1996, (c) December 1996, (d) March 1997, (e) June 1997, (f) September 1997, (g) December 1997, (h) March 1998, (i) June 1998, (j) September 1998, (k) December 1998, (l) March 1999, (m) June 1999, (n) September 1999, (o) December 1999, (p) March 2000, (q) September 2000, (r) September 2001, and (s) September 2002.
- 2708 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What research is the Government currently funding into the possible cures, treatment or prevention of juvenile or type 1 diabetes.
 - (2) How much has the Commonwealth invested in research into these matters in each of the last ten years.
 - (3) What support does the Commonwealth provide to sufferers in meeting the costs associated with treatment of juvenile (type 1) diabetes, including the provision of automatic insulin pumps.
- 2709 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) What was the itemised cost of producing the Comcar Passenger Charter.
 - (2) Has any action been taken in the Human Rights Commission by an employee or former employee against Comcar in each of the last four financial years, including the current financial year; if so, (a) on what basis were such cases initiated, (b) what has been the cost of defending each case to date, and (c) did any of them involve claims of harassment, discrimination or both.
 - (3) Were a number of Victorian drivers refused the supply of new shoes on presentation of vouchers for the purchase of shoes over the course of the past twelve months; if so, (a) why were the vouchers not honoured by the retailer, (b) how many drivers were embarrassed by the vouchers not being honoured, and (c) what has been the basis of any apology by Comcar to the drivers in question.

- 2710 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Prime Minister—Has the Council of Australian Governments taken any decisions in respect of national consistency in tort law reform; if so, (a) what are those decisions, and (b) to what extent have those decisions been implemented by the Commonwealth and the States, respectively.
- 2711 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has the Government considered signing the optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; if so, what was the outcome of that consideration.
 - (2) If the Government has determined that it is not appropriate for Australia to sign the protocol, what are the reasons for that decision.
- 2712 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2204, are the model provisions referred to publicly available; if so, where can they be obtained.
 - (2) Which country or countries have requested in-country drafting assistance.
 - (3) Which country or countries have implemented legislation pursuant to the Nasonini declaration.
- 2713 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 2211 (*Hansard*, 3 November 2003, page 21801), has the Reserve Bank of Australia conducted a symposium on money laundering; if so, (a) when was it held, (b) where was it held, (c) who attended it, and (d) was a presentation made on behalf of the Reserve Bank to that symposium; if so, is a copy of the presentation publicly available.
- 2714 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—Has the Treasurer's Committee taken any decisions in respect of national consistency in tort law reform; if so, (a) what are those decisions, and (b) to what extent have those decisions been implemented by the Commonwealth and the States, respectively.
- 2715 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General taken any decisions in respect of national consistency in tort law reform; if so, (a) what are those decisions, and (b) to what extent have those decisions been implemented by the Commonwealth and the States, respectively.
- 2716 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—Has the government taken any action to ensure that the State and Territory governments comply with the United Nations standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners; if so, (a) what action has been taken, and (b) is the Minister able to say whether Federal, State and Territory prisons and detention centres comply with those minimum rules.
- 2717 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What role, if any, does the Reserve Bank of Australia have in setting standards for financial institutions to identify fraud and/or money laundering activities.
 - (2) To what extent do any other agencies have a role in setting such standards.
- 2718 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has the Board of Air Services Australia taken a decision to pursue the integration of terminal control units located in Sydney, Adelaide and Perth; if so, when does it intend to achieve integration.
 - (2) What will integration involve and, in particular, will it involve personnel being moved or retrenched from terminal control units; if so, (a) from which airports will that occur, and (b) how many employees will be affected.
- 2719 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) In respect of the live export trade, (a) how many animals per year are involved, (b) to which countries are they sent, (c) what is the longest journey, and (d) what are the primary causes of death for animals during shipment.
 - (2) What action can the Government take to improve the treatment of these animals in other countries and to ensure that they are treated in accordance with Australian animal welfare standards.
 - (3) Have alternatives to the live export trade been examined.
 - (4) What does the (a) Halal, and (b) Kosher method of slaughter involve and how do they differ from the standard slaughter practices in Australia.
 - (5) Has his department undertaken any studies to determine how many Australian jobs could be created through the development of a chilled carcass trade to replace the live export trade.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2720 - 2721)—In respect of the Government's recent announcement of a \$7.5 billion budget surplus, will the Minister (a) extend the current four year \$1.2 billion Roads to Recovery program for an additional four year term, and (b) increase the monetary value of the program to \$2.4 billion; if so, when; if not, why not.

2720 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

2721 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

2722 **MR SCIACCA:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many people in the electoral division of Bowman (a) in total, and (b) in each postcode area are recipients of the (i) Aged Pension, (ii) Disability Support Pension, (iii) Carer Allowance, (iv) Newstart Allowance, (v) Youth Allowance, (vi) Parenting Payment Single, (vii) Parenting Payment Partnered, (viii) Family Tax Benefit A, (ix) Family Tax Benefit B, (x) Childcare Benefit, and (xi) Rent Assistance.
- (2) How many people in the electoral division of Bowman are receiving income assistance as a proportion of the total population of the electoral division of Bowman.

5 November 2003

2723 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) When was the last National Nutritional Survey undertaken.
- (2) Why has the Government failed to undertake a follow-up National Nutritional Survey.
- (3) Has his department undertaken any preliminary work or planning for conducting such a survey; if not, why not; if so, why has that planning not been pursued.

2724 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is the Government considering the acquisition of Abrams M1 Main battle tanks (MBT) for the Australian Army; if so, (a) what version or versions of the Abrams tank is or are being considered, and (b) what role is envisaged for the Abrams tanks.
- (2) Does consideration of the acquisition of Abrams MBTs reflect an increased priority for MBTs in the ADF's force structure; if so, what is the strategic basis for that increased priority.
- (3) Does consideration of the Abrams tank reflect a decision to develop new types of capability in the land force not contemplated by the Government's current defence policy as set out in the Defence 2000 White Paper.
- (4) Does consideration of the Abrams tank reflect a decision to develop heavy armoured forces suitable for contributions to coalition operations in high-intensity conflict; if so, what other additional equipment would be required to develop such new types of capabilities; if not, what factors would warrant the acquisition of a tank of this nature.
- (5) Is consideration being given to acquisition of self-propelled artillery, self-propelled air defence, and the logistics capabilities required to constitute an independent armoured capability; if so, what would be the total cost of such new types of capabilities; if not, is it intended that these tanks would only be used as a contribution to allied forces and rely on allies for vital combat support.
- (6) What do the versions being considered weigh and how does this compare with the weight of the Leopard tank.
- (7) What implications would the weight of the Abrams tank have for the Australian Defence Force's (ADF) ability to deploy the tanks within Australia's region and beyond.
- (8) Could the Abrams tank be transported in the ADF's current landing ships and troop lift ships.
- (9) Would the landing ships and troop lift ships need to be modified to transport the Abrams; if so, what would that cost.
- (10) Would the current tank-transport fleet need to be upgraded or replaced to transport the Abrams tanks; if so, what would that cost.
- (11) Would the ADF's current bridging capability need to be upgraded to handle the Abrams tanks; if so, what would that cost.
- (12) Would the ADF's servicing and support facilities need to be upgraded to accommodate the Abrams tanks; if so, what would that cost.
- (13) Would the Abrams tanks be based in Darwin; if not, where would they be based.

- (14) Would Abrams tanks acquired for the ADF be powered by gas turbine; if so, (a) what would be the logistical implications for this form of power for fuel supplies to ADF operations, and (b) would ADF fuel-handling capabilities need to be upgraded; if so, what would be the cost.
- (15) How many tanks is the Government considering acquiring.
- (16) What implications does any cut in tank numbers have for the ADF's capacity for training, deployment and concurrent operations.
- (17) Taking into account all the issues raised in this question and any other costs arising consequent on a decision to acquire Abrams tanks, what would be the total cost of this acquisition.
- (18) What are the deficiencies in the ADF's current tank capabilities which fall short of the Government's strategic requirements.
- (19) What other approaches have been considered to address those deficiencies and what would those other approaches cost.

2725 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What are the Government's intentions in respect of the Fremantle Artillery Barracks.
- (2) Is the Government proposing to require, as a condition of sale of the barracks, the retention on site of the Army Museum of WA.
- (3) What resources for the maintenance/restoration of the site have been offered by the Commonwealth, State or local governments.

2726 **MS J. S. MCFARLANE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many Special Purpose Visas (SPV) have been granted to date in 2003.
- (2) How many people breached the conditions of their SPVs in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, and (h) 2003 to date.
- (3) What action is taken to apprehend a crewmember not holding a SPV who jumps ship.
- (4) What steps are taken to confine a crewmember not holding a SPV to the ship the crewmember arrived on.
- (5) Who is responsible for notifying Australian authorities if a crewmember denied a SPV jumps ship.
- (6) What penalties apply for failing to notify Australian Authorities if a crewmember denied a SPV jumps ship.
- (7) Does legislation require ships to provide information on their crews prior to their departure from Australia; if not, does the Government seek to obtain this information voluntarily and, if it does, how.
- (8) Further to the answer to question No. 274, (*Hansard*, 14 May 2002, page 2139) what action is the Minister taking to secure the passage of the Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002.

2727 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In respect of the agreement between the Commonwealth Government and the New South Wales Government on the construction of the Western Sydney Orbital, (a) what is the total amount of Commonwealth funding, (b) what payments have been made to date, and (c) when will any outstanding payments be made.
- (2) What are the details of the agreement relating to the tolling of the Orbital, in particular, does the agreement provide for (a) different tolls for non-commercial vehicles, commercial vehicles, buses, motorbikes, trucks, cars and trailers, (b) off-peak tolls, (c) adequate entry and exit points to the freeway, and (d) real-time information systems, incident detection systems, video monitoring and the like.
- (3) Does the agreement make any reference to the potential limit of public transport along the route.
- (4) How will the toll-road operator balance its accountability to its shareholders, the New South Wales Government and its customers.
- (5) Does the agreement require that the e-tags operative on the Orbital are operative on other toll-roads in Sydney and vice versa or will motorists have to cope with multiple tags.

2728 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—Further to answers to question Nos 2303 (*Hansard*, 4 November 2003, page 21919) and 2329 (*Hansard*, 4 November 2003, page 21928), in respect of the survey of costs incurred by a sample of Members that was carried out by the Department of Finance and Administration, when was this survey carried out and which Members were surveyed.

- 2729 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is he aware that on 14 November 2003 Telstra will dismiss 54 employees who have worked for the company for between 10 and 20 years due to the closure of its Wollongong Call Centre.
 - (2) Is he aware that Telstra will spend \$2.4 million expanding its Fault Call Centre in Wollongong and that this will create 60 new jobs.
 - (3) Is he aware that the staff who will be dismissed on 14 November have been told they may apply for the new positions in the Fault Call Centre; however Telstra has refused to transfer staff or guarantee them a position if they apply.
 - (4) Is he able to say what prevents Telstra from offering the current staff the necessary training needed for the new positions.
 - (5) Will he intervene and request that Telstra offer its Wollongong Call Centre staff transfers and, where appropriate, training so that they can be employed in its expanded Fault Call Centre; if not, why not.
- 2730 **MS O'BYRNE:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—In respect of the admission by Telstra that 1.2 million Bigpond customers and 270,000 broadband customers were directly affected by the recent collapse of Telstra email systems, is he able to say (a) how many Bigpond customers in the electoral division of Bass were directly affected, (b) how many broadband customers there are in the electoral division of Bass, and (c) how many of the broadband customers in the electoral division of Bass were directly affected.
- 2731 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Has he seen the report by Tim Rutten titled “Producer tells of the politics of Fox” in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 3 November 2003 in which Mr Charlie Reina alleged that “Editorially, the Fox News Channel newsroom is under the constant control and vigilance of management”.
 - (2) Is he able to say how interference in the editorial independence of an Australian newsroom by a media owner could be in the public interest or good for Australia’s democracy; if not, why not.
 - (3) Can he explain whether the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 would allow further concentration of media ownership in Australia; if not, why not.
 - (4) Will he now abandon this bill; if not, why not.
- 2733 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Which telephone exchanges service the electoral division of Chifley.
 - (2) Which telephone exchanges servicing the electoral division of Chifley provide ADSL facilities and which do not.
 - (3) How many subscribers are serviced by the exchanges that do not provide ADSL facilities and what proportion of the subscribers in the electoral division of Chifley do they represent.

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- 2734 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Prime Minister—Has he or any other Minister asked any consultant or member of the public to consult with biofuel producers and refiner/marketers on the possibility of long-term contracts for biofuels; if so, (a) what terms of reference, if any, have been provided to either the consultant or individuals involved, and (b) will the details and the outcome of any discussions be made public.
- 2735 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) For the financial year 2002-2003, how much was collected via the Passenger Movement Charge (a) in total, (b) for each month, and (c) at each airport where the charge is collected.
 - (2) Has a report been undertaken by the National Passenger Facilitation Advisory Committee into Australian Customs Service immigration outward control points; if so, (a) who conducted that report, (b) who was consulted in the preparation of the report, (c) what were the report’s findings concerning (i) cost, (ii) resource availability, (iii) strategic requirements, and (iv) the effective delivery of essential functions, and (d) did the report consider the direct cost of extending the time of immigration outward control points to commence three hours prior to the first flights at all international airports, and if so, what were the estimated additional costs.
 - (3) For the financial year 2002-2003, what were the total costs of (a) conducting immigration outward control points in Australia, and (b) the cost at each airport where outward control points are operational.

- 2736 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—Which employers received subsidies in (a) 2001-2002, and (b) 2002-2003 under the new apprenticeships program by (i) industry, (ii) size of employer (number of employees), (iii) the proportion of traineeships in the employer's workforce, (iv) the proportion of existing employees on traineeships, and (v) the proportion of new employees on traineeships.
- 2737 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—For 2002-2003, by (a) industry, (b) state, and (c) region what proportion of trainees (i) were employed full-time, (ii) were employed part-time, (iii) were employed on a casual or temporary basis, and (iv) had their employment terminated at the conclusion of their traineeships.
- 2738 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Why was the community given only four weeks to respond to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Information Paper *Census of Population and Housing: ABS Views on Content and Procedures 2006* (2007.0) which was released on 2 July 2003.
 - (2) How many submissions were received by the ABS (a) by the due date of 30 July 2003, and (b) after that date.
 - (3) How many submissions expressed concern about the sections of the paper dealing with (a) main languages other than English spoken at home, (b) ancestry, (c) country of birth of parents, and (d) Australian citizenship.
 - (4) Which (a) Commonwealth Departments and agencies, (b) State Government Ministers and agencies, and (c) local government bodies forwarded submissions expressing concern about these aspects of the paper.
 - (5) Following the consideration of public submissions, has the Acting Australian Statistician given the Government further advice on the proposed content of the 2006 Census; if so, what are the details of this advice.
 - (6) What further consultation, if any, is proposed before the content of the 2006 Census is finalised and when is a final decision due to be made.
- 2739 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2262 (*Hansard*, 3 November 2003, page 21804), is he correctly quoted in *The Sunday Telegraph* of 2 November 2003 as stating that the Travel Fund for Former Child Migrants 'has run out of money' and 'had been so popular that its three-year allocation of \$3 million had been used up in the first year of operation'; if so, how are these statements consistent with his answer to the House on the same matter.
 - (2) What is the total amount that has been spent by the Fund to date.
 - (3) What is the estimated value of applications that have been approved for which travel has not yet occurred.
 - (4) What is the estimated size of the former child migrant population and what proportion of former child migrants is likely to benefit from the Travel Fund under current arrangements.
 - (5) In respect of the erection of memorials in each State, what arrangements, if any, exist for consultation with groups representing former child migrants in relation to the location and design of memorials.
- 2740 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Has he seen the Telstra Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2003 Notice of Meeting to be held on 14 November 2003 which was recently issued to all Telstra shareholders.
 - (2) Is he aware that Item 3 of the Items of Business proposes that the meeting approve an increase in directors' fees by \$170,000 per annum from \$1,150,000 to \$1,320,000 per annum.
 - (3) To what degree are the current directors responsible for Telstra's \$965 million write down of its Reach joint venture in Asia made in February 2003 and its reported poor market performance for the financial year ending 30 June 2003.
 - (4) Will he exercise the Commonwealth's 51 percent shareholding in Telstra and vote against the proposed \$170,000 per annum increase in directors' fees; if not, why not.
- MR MURPHY:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2741 - 2758)—
- (1) Has the Minister seen the report by Alan Ramsey titled "The taxpayer's bill where bill is short for billion" in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 5 November 2003 which stated that last financial year consultancies let by Commonwealth departments and agencies was over \$500 million, up from \$313 million a year earlier.

- (2) How much money was spent on consultancies by the Minister's department and agencies in the Minister's portfolios in the financial years ended 30 June (a) 1997; (b) 1998; (c) 1999; (d) 2000; (e) 2001; (f) 2002, and (g) 2003.
- (3) How much money has been spent on consultancies by the Minister's department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio since 1 July 2003.
- 2741 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 2742 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 2743 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 2744 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 2745 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.
- 2746 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 2747 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- 2748 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 2749 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 2750 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 2751 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2752 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 2753 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 2754 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 2755 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 2756 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- 2757 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 2758 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 2759 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) Further to my questions Nos 2614-2631 which were placed on the *Notice Paper* on 15 October 2003, can he confirm that the responses to these questions will be co-ordinated through his office.
 - (2) Can he explain why the individual Ministers cannot respond individually to each question.
- 2760 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs —
- (1) Can he explain the jurisprudential basis for the assignment of responsibility for the registration and collection of child support payments to the Australian Taxation Office.
 - (2) Is he aware that people owing a child support debt to the Commonwealth are being assessed and required to make payments in excess of the reasonable living expenses of a child.
 - (3) What are the relevant provisions of the law with respect to the calculation of child support payments and what is the moral and legal basis on which calculations are made.
 - (4) Is he able to explain the relationship between the calculable amount of child support debt and the estimated reasonable expenses of raising a child.
 - (5) What is the procedure or remedy available to an individual liable for a child support debt calculated according to the *Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988* and the *Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989* which is greater than the reasonable expenses of raising a child.
 - (6) Can he explain the legal philosophy underpinning the requirement for an individual liable for child support payments being compelled under threat of punishment to make payments where the assessed amount of child support exceeds the reasonable expenses of raising the child or children.
 - (7) Is he able to explain the moral and policy basis for the existence of a system in which the child support debt calculated may be in excess of a child's needs.
 - (8) What action is being taken to moderate the amounts of debt owed which are in excess of a child's needs.
- 2761 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What is the definition of 'matrimonial cause' in Commonwealth law.

- (2) Can he explain the jurisprudential basis for the jurisdiction of the Family Court of Australia in respect of the ancillary relief jurisdictions of (a) Property Orders, (b) Maintenance Orders, and (c) orders for the care of children.
- (3) What was the legislature's intent in creating Family Court jurisdiction over the matters enumerated in part (2).
- (4) Is he aware of the editorial titled "This deal is more than a bit Rich" in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 5 November 2003 regarding the financial arrangements of the former One Tel Managing Director, Mr Jodie Rich and his wife Ms Maxine Rich.
- (5) Is he concerned that the law appears to enable a person to use an agreement as a mechanism for putting significant assets beyond the reach of creditors by transferring to a spouse assets in excess of the spouse and their children's notional entitlements.
- (6) Can he confirm that the legislation allows a person to pay in excess of the amount required to meet the financial needs of an estranged spouse and children, solely or substantially with the intention of placing assets out of the reach of his or her creditors.
- (7) In drafting legislation, what procedure ensures that loopholes that enable people to avoid their obligations to creditors do not arise.
- (8) Is he aware that Justice Stephen O'Ryan was precluded from accepting the petition of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission to recover part of an estimated \$93 Million in assets.
- (9) Does he intend to continue the policy of allowing binding financial agreements in family law.
- (10) Does he intend to review the legislation that legalises binding financial agreements with a view to either (a) repealing these provisions, or (b) restricting such agreements to give them legal recognition only for the purpose of the recovery of debts by family court applicants; if so, when will this take place; if not, why not.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 2762 - 2764)—In respect of the ruling on 4 November 2003 by Justice Stephen O'Ryan indicating that there was prima facie evidence supporting the Australian Securities and Investment Commission's claim that an agreement to shift assets, including the family home, to the wife of Mr Jodee Rich, Mrs Maxine Rich, was entered into because of a concern about claims on her husband's property by third parties as a result of the collapse of OneTel, when will the Government amend the Family Law Act to allow the Court to examine and overturn agreements made by parties to put assets out of reach of creditors.

2762 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer.

2763 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General.

2764 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

2765 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What representations did the then Member for Flinders, the Hon. Peter Reith, or his staff make in respect of the application by the Western Port Oberon Association for a Centenary of Federation grant.
- (2) How did the relocation of the decommissioned *Otama* meet the criteria for a Centenary of Federation grant.
- (3) When did the Western Port Oberon Association receive advice that its Centenary of Federation grant application was successful.
- (4) Who were the office bearers of the Western Port Oberon Association, Hastings, in March 2001 and who signed its application for the Centenary of Federation grant.
- (5) Is the Western Port Oberon Association an incorporated body.
- (6) How does the project relate to the Federation of Australia in 1901.

2766 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2391 (*Hansard*, 4 November 2003, page 21928), on what date in October 2001 was the decision made to relocate the decommissioned submarine *Otama* to the land display in the Naval Memorial Park in Hastings, Victoria.
- (2) Why were invitations to bid for the submarine issued only to the City of Geelong and the Western Port Oberon Association and who made that decision.
- (3) Who made the decision not to go to public tender and why.
- (4) What role did the then Minister for Defence have in making that decision.

- (5) On what date was the Western Port Oberon Association advised that its tender to acquire the submarine was successful.
- (6) What consultation did the then Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence, the Hon. Brendan Nelson, have with the Minister for Defence and the Minister's staff about the disposal of the *Otama*.
- (7) What advice or instruction did the Parliamentary Secretary receive from the then Minister or his staff in relation to this matter.
- (8) Who signed the Western Port Oberon Association's tender document.

24 November 2003

***2767 MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Further to the answers to question Nos 358 (*Hansard*, 19 August 2002, page 4939), 884 (*Hansard*, 22 October 2002, page 8402), 1503 (*Hansard*, 14 May 2003, page 14574), 2079 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18988), 2080 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18988), 2081 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18989) and 2456, will he contact the Director of Radiology at Concord Repatriation General Hospital to learn of the urgent need for a Medicare eligible Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) unit; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (2) On what date was the last licence to operate a Medicare eligible MRI unit granted by his department and what are the details of this licence.
- (3) Will Concord Repatriation General Hospital be granted a licence to operate a Medicare eligible MRI unit; if so, when, if not, why not.

***2768 MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What proportion of general practitioners (GPs) offer bulk-billing in the electoral division of Lowe.
- (2) What proportion of GPs offered bulk billing in the electoral division of Lowe in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, and (g) 2002.
- (3) Will he grant doctors who have not undergone GP training, but who have four year post-graduate experience in (a) paediatrics, (b) geriatrics, (c) general medicine, and (d) emergency medicine in the hospital system, limited access to a provider number in order to increase the supply of GPs; if so, when; if not, why not.

***2769 MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question Nos 2135 (*Hansard*, 7 October 2003, page 20701) and 2496 (*Hansard*, 5 November 2003, page 22074), when declaring the Calder Highway a Road of National Importance (RONI) in 1997, did the Commonwealth initially undertake to upgrade the Calder Highway from Melbourne to Bendigo on a 50:50 basis with the Victorian Government; if so, on what basis has the Government decided that its RONI commitment to the Calder Highway has been fulfilled with the completion of work between Carlsruhe to Kyneton.
- (2) In respect of the decision that the Commonwealth's RONI commitment to the Calder was "fully met" with the completion of work between Carlsruhe and Kyneton, (a) who made the decision, (b) on what date was it formally made, and (c) was it approved by the (i) Federal Cabinet, (ii) Federal Treasurer, or (iii) Prime Minister; if so, (iv) on what date was it approved, and (v) will he provide the full text of the decision and the approval.
- (3) What would be the total cost to the Commonwealth if it shared with the Victorian Government the cost of completing the upgrade of the Calder Highway from Kyneton to Bendigo.
- (4) What amount has the Commonwealth already spent on planning roadworks north of Kyneton to Bendigo and what are the details.

***2770 MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—In respect of the Council of Australian Governments agreement to a new Intergovernmental Agreement on water, (a) who will appoint the task forces, and (b) will State Governments be involved in the process.

***2771 MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that at the Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation at Fortuna, Bendigo there is currently underway (a) a Hard Print Copy Review to review the current hard copy map printing capability of the organisation, and (b) an internal organisational review on the most suitable structure and location of the organisation.

- (2) Can he confirm that the internal organisation review is considering three options: (a) no movement of facilities, (b) relocation of some of the functions to Canberra, and (c) relocation of the entire facility to Canberra.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the impact the loss of 150 jobs from this facility would have on the economy of the Bendigo region.
- (4) When will a final decision be made.

*2772 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) Can he confirm that Job Network providers are claiming funding each year for placing the same itinerant workers in the same annual seasonal employment.
- (2) Can he explain how Job Network providers may claim funding under the pretext that they secured employment for the itinerant worker when the seasonal work is offered directly to the worker.

*2773 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Now that funding for Networking the Nation programs has ceased, what measures are in place to provide continuing support for those programs which have been unable to achieve a self-sufficient status.

*2774 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How many people in Australia are affected by Alzheimer's disease.
- (2) Is he aware that a large number of people with Alzheimer's disease are being assisted by Aricept medication.
- (3) Is he also aware that some people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease are being denied subsidised access to the drug Aricept because they do not meet all the criteria that have been set.
- (4) Would he consider reviewing the criteria so that all people who are using Aricept with some improvement in their condition will be allowed to continue receiving it on a subsidised basis.

*2775 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—On (a) 1 December 2002, and (b) 31 October 2003, how many reservists by rank were posted to the (i) High Readiness Active Reserve, (ii) High Readiness Specialist Reserve, (iii) Active Reserve, (iv) Specialist Reserve, and (v) Standby Reserve.

*2776 **MR EVANS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can he advise why Mr W. K. L. Chappell of South Australia was recently refused the issue of the Australian Service Medal (ASM) with Clasp SE Asia in respect of his RAAF service with 478 Squadron at Butterworth Air Base in Malaysia from 17 December 1974 to 15 February 1977.
- (2) Is he aware that Mr Chappell has two qualifying periods of service, the other being from December 1965 to December 1968 and that his two periods of service were for different reasons.
- (3) Is he aware that the ASM 1945-1975 and the ASM post 1975 are for two different times.
- (4) Will he review this veteran's application to ensure he receives his appropriate awards.

*2777 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For each year from 1996 to 2002, how many personnel were recruited to the Australian Defence Force (ADF) for each service and for regular forces and each category of Reserves.
- (2) For each year from 1996 to 2002, how many personnel left the ADF for each service and for regular forces and each category of Reserves.
- (3) For each year from 1996 to 2002, how many personnel left the ADF after (a) 1 month, (b) 2 months, (c) 6 months, (d) 1 year, (e) 3 years, and (d) 6 years.
- (4) For each year from 1996 to 2002, how many personnel were discharged from the ADF as result of (a) physical injury or illness, (b) psychological illness, (c) disciplinary reasons, and (d) administrative reasons.
- (5) For each year from 1996 to 2002, how many serving ADF personnel have died and, in respect of each death (a) what was the cause, and (b) what was the individual's length of service at the time of death.
- (6) In respect of the ADF personnel recruited during the period from 1996 to 2002 and who have since been discharged, what was their average length of service.
- (7) What corrective action will the Government take in response to the rising rates of unacceptable behaviour in the ADF, in particular the Navy, revealed in the Department of Defence Report for 2002-2003.

*2778 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What is the take-up rate of ADSL services in the Lake Macquarie Local Government Area.

- (2) What resources are in place to meet anticipated demand for ADSL services in the Lake Macquarie Local Government Area.
- (3) Is demand for ADSL service in the Lake Macquarie Local Government Area being met.
- *2779 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—For each State and Territory, which schools entered the 2003 National Awards for Quality Schooling and in which categories did they apply.
- *2780 **MR ORGAN:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Is he aware that many of the recommended plants included in the “Flora for Fauna” scheme administered by the Nursery and Garden Industry Australia under the Environment Australia Natural Heritage Trust are privately owned cultivars that do not occur in nature and are protected by plant breeders rights, and that authentic Australian plants are not the sole focus of “Flora for Fauna”.
- (2) Is he aware that the propagation of artificial hybrids and cultivars results in genetically identical clones that contribute nothing to biodiversity.
- (3) Is he aware of CSIRO findings that artificial hybrids hybridise with naturally occurring species, contaminating the local gene pool.
- (4) Is he aware that artificial hybrids with extended flowering seasons favour sedentary, territorial honeyeaters like the Noisy Miner, which are strongly implicated in the reduction of bird species diversity in urban areas.
- (5) Can he explain the basis of the claim that the “Flora for Fauna” program enhances biodiversity and environmental education.
- *2781 **MS JACKSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is he aware that the Continence Foundation of Australia presented a position paper titled “Toward an Equitable National Subsidy Scheme for Continence Products” to the Government in November 2000.
- (2) What action, if any, has the Government taken in response to the position paper.
- (3) Is he aware that the position paper recommended that the Continence Aids Assistance Scheme (CAAS) be revised to improve access for people with incontinence under 16 and over 65 years of age.
- (4) Will he implement this recommendation; if not, why not.
- *2782 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) On what dates did the Howard Government refer ILO Convention 182, eliminating the worst forms of child labour, to each of the States and Territories.
- (2) Which States and Territories will require amendment of legislation prior to ratification of the Convention.
- *2783 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) For each year since the Gold Card was introduced for veterans of World War 2, what was the number of veterans with a Gold Card and what was the total cost.
- (2) How many WW2 veterans of relevant age but not service are ineligible for the Gold Card.
- *2784 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) What action has been taken to reduce or eliminate serial sponsorships of brides or partners.
- (2) To what extent can the Minister say they have been effective.
- (3) Is there any scrutiny of Visitors Visas to detect the potential for serial sponsorship.
- *2785 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How much did the change from the AusAID logo to the new logo with the Commonwealth crest cost.
- (2) How much did the original change of logo from AIDAB to AusAID cost.
- *2786 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Further to to the answers to questions Nos 2185 and 2560, will he explain the methods used to determine whether or not a particular treaty will be entered into, ratified or otherwise given effect to through domestic legislation.
- (2) If a decision is not made to commence immediately the process towards signing or ratification, what process does the Government have to review the outstanding lists of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary General of the United Nations and open for signature.

- (3) How often does the review of treaties to which Australia is not a party take place.
- (4) Is there a list of treaties under active consideration as distinct from those which are not being considered for adoption by Australia.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

SPEAKER'S PANEL

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

COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 40th Parliament

Standing

Pursuant to standing orders

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

Current inquiry:

Capacity building in indigenous communities.

AGEING: Mr Cobb (*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 Schultz, 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 Baldwin (*Chair*), Mr Ciobo, Mr Farmer, 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 inquiries:

Local government and cost shifting.

Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia Report for 2001-02.

Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia Report for 2002-03 and Payment System Board Report for 2002-03.

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: Mr Barresi (*Chair*), Mr Bevis, Mr Dutton, Ms Hall, Mr Hartsuyker, Mr Lloyd, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Randall, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wilkie.

Current inquiry:

Employment: Increasing participation in paid work

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 inquiries:

Employment in the environment sector.

Sustainable cities 2025.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mrs Hull (*Chair*), Mr Cadman, Ms Draper, Mr Dutton, Ms George, Mrs Irwin, Mr Pearce, Mr Price, Mr Quick, Mr C. P. Thomson.

Current inquiries:

Child custody arrangements in the event of family separation.

Children's developmental health and well being.

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 Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr McLeay, Mr Randall, Mr C. P. Thomson, Mr Tollner, Dr Washer.

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS: Mrs B. K. Bishop (*Chair*), Mr Cadman, Mr Kerr, Mr McClelland, Mr Murphy, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Sciacca, Mr Secker, Mr Somlyay, 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 inquiry:

Proposed revised standing orders.

PUBLICATIONS: Mr Randall (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Cobb, Mr Evans, 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:

Coordination of the science to combat salinity.

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 inquiries:

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

National road safety.

Privatisation of regional infrastructure and government business enterprises.

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 (*Final report presented 5 November 2003; Committee dissolved.*)

Joint Statutory

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

Current inquiries:

Intelligence information received by Australia's intelligence services in relation to weapons of mass destruction.

Intelligence Services Amendment Bill 2003.

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 inquiries:

Cybercrime.

Trafficking in women for sexual servitude.

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: Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Mr Byrne, Mr Ciobo, Mr Griffin, Mr Hunt, Mr McArthur, Senator Brandis, Senator Conroy, Senator Murray, Senator Wong.

Current inquiries:

Australia's insolvency laws.

CLERP (Audit Reform and Corporate Disclosure) Bill and related matters.

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: Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Mrs Hull, Mrs Ley, Mr McMullan, Mr Secker, Mr Snowdon, Senator Crossin, Senator Lees, Senator McLucas, Senator Scullion.

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

Current inquiries:

Management and integrity of electronic information in the Commonwealth.

Review of Aviation Security in Australia.

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:

Christmas Island—Construction of a respecified immigration reception and processing centre.

Christmas Island—Proposed community recreation centre.

Lucas Heights, NSW—New main entrance at the Lucas Heights Science and Technology Centre.

Lucas Heights, NSW—Redevelopment of Radiopharmaceutical Production Building No. 23.

Queanbeyan, NSW—Development of off-base housing for Defence.

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

Joint Standing

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

Current inquiry:

Minimum representation for the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

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.

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.

Watching Brief on the War on Terrorism.

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

Current inquiry:

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

NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), 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:

Governance on Norfolk Island.

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).

Role of the National Capital Authority.

TREATIES (*Formed 14 February 2002*): Dr Southcott (*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.

Current inquiries:

Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 and the Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS).

Treaty tabled on 3 December 2002 (V&P, page 598.)

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*).