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**Contents**

1	Meeting of Senate .....	3744
2	Death of Senator Jeannie Margaret Ferris .....	3744
3	Resignations of Senator Santoro and Senator Vanstone .....	3744
4	Vacancies in the Representation of Queensland and South Australia— Choice of Suzanne Kay Boyce and Simon John Birmingham .....	3744
5	Notices .....	3745
6	Death of Senator Jeannie Margaret Ferris .....	3746
7	Adjournment as Mark of Respect .....	3747
8	Attendance .....	3747

**1 MEETING OF SENATE**

The Senate met at 12.30 pm. The President (Senator the Honourable Paul Calvert) took the chair and read prayers.

**2 DEATH OF SENATOR JEANNIE MARGARET FERRIS**

The President informed the Senate of the death on Monday, 2 April 2007, of Senator Jeannie Margaret Ferris and indicated that a condolence motion would be moved at 2 pm today.

**3 RESIGNATIONS OF SENATOR SANTORO AND SENATOR VANSTONE**

The President informed the Senate of the resignations from the Senate of Senator Santoro, on 11 April 2007, and Senator Vanstone, on 26 April 2007.

**4 VACANCIES IN THE REPRESENTATION OF QUEENSLAND AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA—CHOICE OF SUZANNE KAY BOYCE AND SIMON JOHN BIRMINGHAM**

The President advised the Senate that, pursuant to section 21 of the Constitution, he had notified the Governor of Queensland and both he and the Governor-General had notified the Governor of South Australia that there were vacancies in the representation of those states.

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*Documents:* The President tabled the following documents:

Vacancy in the representation of Queensland—Letters from—

Senator Santoro to the President, dated 11 April 2007.

President of the Senate to the Governor of Queensland (Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, AC), dated 11 April 2007.

Vacancies in the representation of South Australia—Letters from—

President of the Senate to the Governor of South Australia (Her Excellency Mrs Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, AC, CVO, MBE), dated 2 April 2007.

Senator Vanstone to His Excellency the Governor-General, dated 26 April 2007.

Governor-General to the Governor of South Australia (Her Excellency Mrs Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, AC, CVO, MBE), dated 26 April 2007.

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The President announced that he had received, through the Governor-General, from the Governor of Queensland, a copy of the certificate of the choice by the Parliament of Queensland of Suzanne Kay Boyce as a senator to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Santoro, and from the Governor's Deputy of South Australia, a copy of the certificate of the choice by the Parliament of South Australia of Simon John Birmingham as a senator to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Ferris.

The President tabled the copies of the certificates as follows:

Government House

Queensland

3 May 2007

His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery, AC, CVO, MC (Retd)  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia  
Government House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Your Excellency

I have the honour to certify that on 19 April 2007, Ms Suzanne Kay Boyce, Company Director of 13 Mardale Street, Grange 4051 was chosen to hold the place in the Senate of the Parliament of the Commonwealth rendered vacant through the resignation of Senator Santo Santoro.

Yours sincerely  
Quentin Bryce  
Governor.

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Government House  
Adelaide  
Thursday, 3rd May 2007

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the President of the Legislative Council in this State reports that, in accordance with Section 15 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, a Joint Sitting of the Houses of Parliament was held today and Mr Simon Birmingham was duly chosen to be a Senator to fill the vacancy in the representation of South Australia in the Senate of the Commonwealth caused by the death of Senator Jeannie Ferris.

Yours sincerely,  
Bruno Krumins AM  
Governor's Deputy of South Australia  
His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC (Retd)  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia  
Government House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600.

*Senators sworn:* Senators Boyce and Birmingham, pursuant to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, then made and subscribed the affirmation of allegiance at the table.

## 5 NOTICES

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) that on Tuesday, 17 April 2007, the Mayor of Nagasaki, Mr Iccho Itoh, was murdered in a senseless crime,
- (ii) that Mayor Itoh was born just 2 weeks before the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and throughout his life worked tirelessly for the eradication of nuclear weapons,
- (iii) that Mayor Itoh was vice president of Mayors for Peace and a leader of their global campaign to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2020, and
- (iv) his significant role in the three Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assemblies held while he was mayor;

- (b) recalls his opening address to the Assembly in 2006 where he began by asking ‘What can people possibly be thinking?’ 61 years ago ‘a single atomic bomb destroyed our city, instantly claiming the lives of 74,000 people ... and yet, [today] some 30,000 nuclear weapons stand ready nonetheless to annihilate humanity’;
- (c) considers that the world has lost a great peace leader in Mayor Itoh; and
- (d) conveys its condolences to the family of Mayor Itoh, the Mayors for Peace and the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. (*general business notice of motion no. 783*)

The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson): To move 15 sitting days after today—

No. 1—That the Australian Federal Police Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 326 and made under the *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*, be disallowed.

No. 2—That Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests) 2006 – Instrument 2006 No. R33, made under subsection 18(2) of the *Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Act 2006*, be disallowed.

No. 3—That Treatment Principles (Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests) 2006 – Instrument 2006 No. R30, made under subsection 16(2) of the *Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Act 2006*, be disallowed.

Senator Siewert: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate notes that:

- (a) 26 May 2007 is the 10th anniversary of the tabling in the Senate of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission report, *Bringing them home: National inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families*;
- (b) as recommended in the report, the Senate recognises that 26 May is National Sorry Day, a day of remembrance each year to commemorate the history of forcible removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and its effects on individuals, families and communities; and
- (c) of the 54 recommendations in the report, very few have been fully implemented in the decade since its release. (*general business notice of motion no. 784*)

*Suspension of sitting:* On the motion of the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz) the sitting of the Senate was suspended at 12.38 pm till 2 pm.

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At 2 pm—

## 6 DEATH OF SENATOR JEANNIE MARGARET FERRIS

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Minchin), by leave, moved—That the Senate records its deep regret at the death, on 2 April 2007, of Senator Jeannie Margaret Ferris, Senator for South Australia, and places on record its appreciation of her long and meritorious public service and tenders its profound sympathy to her family in their bereavement.

The motion was supported and all senators present stood in silence—

Question passed.

**7 ADJOURNMENT AS MARK OF RESPECT**

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Minchin) moved—That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator Jeannie Margaret Ferris, the Senate do now adjourn.

The Senate adjourned at 6.16 pm till Wednesday, 9 May 2007 at 9.30 am.

**8 ATTENDANCE**

Present, all senators except Senators Carol Brown\* and Polley (\* on leave).

**HARRY EVANS**  
Clerk of the Senate