

2004-05

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 66

THURSDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2005

The Senate meets at 9.30 am

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Notifications prefixed by an () appear for the first time.*

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Notices of Motion

Notice given 28 November 2005

- 1 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That Schedule 7 of the Migration Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 8), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 221 and made under the *Migration Act 1958*, be disallowed.

Eight sitting days remain for resolving.**

** *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the Schedule will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

Notice given 2 December 2005

- 2 **Senator McLucas:** To move—That, recognising that 3 December 2005 marks the International Day of People with DisAbility, the following matter be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 17 August 2006:

An examination of the funding and operation of the Commonwealth-State/Territory Disability Agreement (CSTDA), including:

- (a) an examination of the intent and effect of the three CSTDAs to date;
- (b) the appropriateness or otherwise of current Commonwealth/state/territory joint funding arrangements, including an analysis of levels of unmet needs and in particular the unmet need for accommodation services and support;
- (c) an examination of the ageing/disability interface with respect to health, aged care and other services including the problems of jurisdictional overlap and inefficiency; and
- (d) an examination of alternative funding, jurisdiction and administrative arrangements including relevant examples from overseas.

- 3 **Chair of the Economics References Committee (Senator Stephens):** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Economics References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 October 2006:

Fiscal and regulatory barriers to the deployment of competitive manufacturing technologies in Australia, with particular reference to:

- (a) Australia's competitive advantages with respect to the deployment of competitive manufacturing technologies;
- (b) Australia's competitive disadvantages with respect to the deployment of competitive manufacturing technologies in other countries;
- (c) whether the capital intensity and risk profile of deploying competitive and leading edge manufacturing technologies is a barrier to investment in Australia;
- (d) how the Australian fiscal and regulatory regime compares to other countries in this regard;
- (e) options available to address any barriers, including managerial capability and competency or competitive disincentive; and
- (f) any related matters.

Notice given 7 December 2005

- *4 **Senator Troeth:** To move—That when a bill for an Act to repeal ministerial responsibility for approval of RU486 is introduced into the Senate, the bill be referred immediately to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by the second sitting day in 2006.

Order of the Day

*1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—
Proposed reference**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Chair of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee (Senator Marshall)—That the following matter be referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee for inquiry and report by 20 June 2006:

The role and performance of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in the light of current Government policy, and the organisation's attempts at refocusing its research endeavours, taking into account the following:

- (a) the evolving role of CSIRO as a public research institution, and the ability of CSIRO to initiate and manage change;
- (b) the challenge of commercialisation, enhancement of the CSIRO 'brand', and the dilemma of choosing a national or global approach to research development;
- (c) intellectual property concerns, including the rewarding of researchers;
- (d) managing competition in the research sector, including competition between public research bodies, between the CSIRO and the private research sector, and the obligation of CSIRO to cover the research spectrum; and
- (e) management culture within the CSIRO, including its corporate profile, communication performance and community engagement, and its capacity to instil a modern research culture and to recruit and retain research personnel (*Senator Stephens, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Notice of Motion

Notice given 7 December 2005

- *1 **Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison):** To move—That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2006 be as follows:

Autumn sittings:

Tuesday, 7 February to Thursday, 9 February

Monday, 27 February to Thursday, 2 March

Monday, 27 March to Thursday, 30 March

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 9 May to Thursday, 11 May

Winter sittings:

Tuesday, 13 June to Thursday, 15 June

Monday, 19 June to Thursday, 22 June

Spring sittings:

Tuesday, 8 August to Thursday, 10 August

Monday, 14 August to Thursday, 17 August

Monday, 4 September to Thursday, 7 September

Monday, 11 September to Thursday, 14 September

Monday, 9 October to Thursday, 12 October

Monday, 16 October to Thursday, 19 October

Monday, 6 November to Thursday, 9 November

Monday, 27 November to Thursday, 30 November

Monday, 4 December to Thursday, 7 December.

Orders of the Day**1 Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005****Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Related Amendments) Bill 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Colbeck)—That this bill be now read a second time.

And on the amendment moved by Senator Stephens—At the end of the motion—

In respect of the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005, add “but the Senate condemns the Government for:

- (a) its extreme, arrogant and unnecessary approach to the nuclear waste dump;
- (b) misleading Australians about the necessity of the bill despite believing that the Government already has the power under existing laws to site and establish a waste dump;
- (c) breaking its promise not to locate a waste dump in the Northern Territory;
- (d) overriding many federal legal protections including the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984*, the *Native Title Act 1993*, and the *Lands Acquisition Act 1989*;
- (e) destroying existing or possible rights of Indigenous people to the proposed waste dump sites in the Northern Territory;
- (f) trampling over Northern Territorians and other communities by overriding any existing or future state or territory law or regulation that prohibits or interferes with the selection of Commonwealth land as a site, the establishment of a waste dump, and the transportation of waste across the highways and by-ways of Australia;
- (g) refusing to hear the concerns of Northern Territorians and imposing nuclear waste on local communities without consultation or building trust and inclusiveness;

- (h) misleading Australians by falsely claiming that unless the waste dump site is selected urgently, medical isotope production will cease;
- (j) destroying any recourse to procedural fairness provisions for anyone wishing to challenge the Minister's decision to put a waste dump in the Northern Territory; and
- (k) disregarding the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Commission on good social practices like consultation and transparency in relation to nuclear waste" (7 December 2005).

- 2 **Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 14 June 2005*).
- 3 **Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Safety-nets) Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary (Trade), Senator Sandy Macdonald*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*11 October 2005*).
- 4 **Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 4) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Coonan, 11 August 2005*).
- 5 **Tax Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions Splitting) Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 28 November 2005*).
- 6 **Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 5) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Patterson, 7 September 2005*).
- 7 **National Health Amendment (Budget Measures—Pharmaceutical Benefits Safety Net) Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 7 November 2005*).
- 8 **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 1 December 2005*).
- 9 **Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Patterson, 8 November 2005*).
- 10 **Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment (Stored Communications and Other Measures) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 13 October 2005*).

- *11 **Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget Measures) Bill 2005**
Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 258 from the House of Representatives (7 December 2005).
- *12 **Census Information Legislation Amendment Bill 2005**—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ellison, 7 December 2005*).
- 13 **Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 4) Bill 2005**
Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment Bill 2005—
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 7 November 2005*).
- 14 **Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2005**—(Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 7 November 2005*).
- 15 **Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005**—(Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 7 November 2005*).
- 16 **Trade Practices Amendment (Personal Injuries and Death) Bill 2004**—
(Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Minchin, 15 September 2005*).
- 17 **Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005**—(Senate bill)—
(Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*23 June 2005*).
- 18 **Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2004**—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator George Campbell, 2 December 2004*).
- 19 **Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Safety and Other Measures) Bill 2005**—(Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Minchin, 18 August 2005*).

- 20 **Offshore Petroleum Bill 2005**
Offshore Petroleum (Annual Fees) Bill 2005
Offshore Petroleum (Registration Fees) Bill 2005
Offshore Petroleum (Repeals and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2005
Offshore Petroleum (Royalty) Bill 2005
Offshore Petroleum (Safety Levies) Amendment Bill 2005—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 5 September 2005*).
- 21 **Health Insurance Amendment (Medical Specialists) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Minchin, 18 August 2005*).
- 22 **Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 5 September 2005*).
- 23 **Maritime Legislation Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*23 June 2005*).
- 24 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Better Bargaining) Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 12 September 2005*).
- 25 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Minchin, 18 August 2005*).
- 26 **Postal Industry Ombudsman Bill 2005**
Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 214 from the House of Representatives (*12 September 2005*).
- 27 **Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Maritime Security Guards and Other Measures) Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*23 June 2005*).
- 28 **Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand) Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*23 June 2005*).

- 29 **Sex Discrimination Amendment (Teaching Profession) Bill 2004**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 14 June 2005*).
- 30 **Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 28 November 2005*).
- 31 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Extended Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ellison, 12 May 2005*).
- 32 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 10 May 2005*).
- 33 **Budget statement and documents 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—That the Senate take note of the statement and documents (*adjourned, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Colbeck), 12 May 2005*).

ORDERS OF THE DAY RELATING TO COMMITTEE REPORTS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES AND AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS

Orders of the Day relating to Committee Reports and Government Responses

- 1 **Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Report—Government advertising and accountability**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Forshaw)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Carr, in continuation, 6 December 2005*).
- 2 **Migration—Joint Standing Committee—Report—Review of Audit Report no. 1, 2005-06, Management of the detention centre contracts—Part B**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 6 December 2005*).
- 3 **ASIO, ASIS and DSD—Joint Statutory Committee—Report—ASIO's questioning and detention powers: Review of the operation, effectiveness and implications of Division 3 of Part III in the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferguson—That the Senate take note of the report (*Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), in continuation, 30 November 2005*).

4 Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee—Report—Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005 and Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Related Amendments) Bill 2005

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Troeth)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 29 November 2005*).

5 Community Affairs References Committee—Reports entitled: Forgotten Australians: A report on Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children—Protecting vulnerable children: A national challenge: Inquiry into Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care—Government responses

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Murray—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator McLucas, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

6 Community Affairs References Committee—Report entitled: Nursing: The patient profession: Time for action—Government response

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator McLucas, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

7 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Report—Opportunities and challenges: Australia's relationship with China

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Hutchins)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Hogg, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

8 Economics References Committee—Report—Consenting adults deficits and household debts: Links between Australia's current account deficit, the demand for imported goods and household debt

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Stephens)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Stephens, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

9 Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee—Report—The 2004 federal election—Report of the inquiry into the conduct of the 2004 federal election and matters related thereto

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Mason—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Hogg, 10 November 2005*).

10 Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Report—Regional Partnership and Sustainable Regions programs

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Forshaw)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Stephens, 10 November 2005*).

11 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Report—Mr Chen Yonglin's request for political asylum

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Hutchins)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 10 November 2005*).

Orders of the Day relating to Auditor-General's reports

- 1 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 15 of 2005-06—Performance audit—Administration of the R&D Start Program: Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources; Industry Research and Development Board**
Consideration (28 November 2005).
- 2 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 16 of 2005-06—Performance audit—The management and processing of leave**
Consideration (28 November 2005).
- 3 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 18 of 2005-06—Performance audit—Customs Compliance Assurance Strategy for international cargo: Australian Customs Service**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Payne, in continuation, 30 November 2005*).
- 4 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 19 of 2005-06—Performance audit—Managing for quarantine effectiveness—Follow-up: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Biosecurity Australia**
Consideration (1 December 2005).
- 5 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 20 of 2005-06—Performance audit—Regulation of private health insurance by the Private Health Insurance Administration Council**
Consideration (6 December 2005).

GENERAL BUSINESS

Notices of Motion

Notice given 9 December 2004

- 56 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to investigate the potential for a World Heritage nomination for Tasmania's Tarkine wilderness.

Notice given 7 March 2005

- 80 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) congratulates the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues on reaffirming at the United Nations, during the week beginning 27 February 2005, the Government's ongoing commitment to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and its refusal to agree to proposals from the United States of America that would have explicitly omitted women's right to safe and legal abortion;
 - (b) affirms reproductive health rights as fundamental human rights; and

- (c) calls on the governments of other states and the Northern Territory to follow the Australian Capital Territory's lead in removing pregnancy termination from the criminal code.

Notice given 10 May 2005

123 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) affirms:
 - (i) its support for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in particular, Article 12 that refers to the need to ensure 'access to health care services, including those related to family planning',
 - (ii) the principle that health decisions should be made by those most closely involved with them, and
 - (iii) its respect for the right of women to make decisions regarding their fertility, including unplanned pregnancies, based on their life situations, personal values and beliefs;
- (b) notes that in the Australian Survey of Social Attitudes (2003), 81.2 per cent of Australians agreed that women should have the right to choose an abortion, 9 per cent disagreed and 10 per cent were undecided;
- (c) encourages:
 - (i) the provision of unbiased, relevant and accurate information for women experiencing unwanted pregnancy, without coercion,
 - (ii) accurate advice and support for women to act on their own values in making reproductive decisions, whether they be adoption, motherhood or termination of pregnancy, including non-directive, all-options counselling,
 - (iii) improvements in the evaluation of, and access to, advice and support on contraceptive choices,
 - (iv) measures to ensure a wide variety of contraceptive measures are accessible and affordable, and that the privacy of women and men accessing such measures is protected,
 - (v) the more ready availability of emergency contraception from a variety of settings, and
 - (vi) lifelong sexuality and health education;
- (d) calls on the Government to work with state and territory governments to develop:
 - (i) a thorough and inclusive national framework of evidence-based and age-appropriate sex education in all schools, and
 - (ii) national standards for pregnancy counselling services; and
- (e) supports the privacy of medical records for reproductive health, including abortion and access to Medicare rebates for termination services.

Notice given 11 May 2005

- 137 **Senator Conroy:** To move—That the order of the Senate providing for estimates hearings be amended by adding at the end of paragraph (2) the following:
 “and (b) that officers of the ACCC responsible for communications matters, including telecommunications matters, are required to appear before the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee considering Budget estimates during May 2005”.

Notice given 16 June 2005

- 176 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to bring Australia’s troops home from Iraq.

Notice given 17 August 2005

- 225 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
 - (i) Friday, 26 August 2005 is the 4th anniversary of the rescue of 433 asylum seekers by the MV *Tampa*, and
 - (ii) 4 years later, 32 asylum seekers remain on Nauru as part of the Government’s cruel Pacific Solution; and
 - (b) calls on the Government to bring the remaining asylum seekers still on Nauru to the Australian mainland.

Notice given 6 September 2005

- 240 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) and Senator McLucas:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) recognises that the United Nations (UN) Secretary General’s report on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, *In larger freedom*, calls on governments to ensure universal access to reproductive health services;
 - (b) acknowledges that in January 2005 the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) reaffirmed the vision of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) for human development, social justice, economic progress and environmental preservation and called on the international community, national governments and private philanthropic organisations to prioritise the ICPD Program of Action; and
 - (c) recognises that access to sexual and reproductive health is also a critical strategy towards achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment, the third of the Millennium Development Goals.

(As amended on 8 September 2005.)

Notice given 8 September 2005

- 252 **Senator Milne:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
 - (i) based on longstanding bipartisan policy as announced by the then Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, in May 1997 (Uranium—Australia’s Decision, Fraser Government, 24 May 1977), export of uranium from Australia is permitted, in the case of non-nuclear weapon states, only to those which are party to the Nuclear

Non-Proliferation Treaty and with which Australia has a bilateral safeguards agreement, and

- (ii) India is not a signatory to the treaty; and therefore
- (b) calls on the Government to immediately rule out the export of uranium from Australia to India in order to uphold our international obligations as a signatory to the treaty.

Notice of motion altered on 12 September 2005 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 4 October 2005

- 268 **Senator Carr:** To move—That the Senate supports the maintenance of compulsory voting for federal elections.

Notice given 30 November 2005

- 339 **Senator Lundy:** To move—That the Senate condemns the Howard Government's targeted attack on women in Australian society through its extreme industrial relations changes and the changes contained in the so-called welfare to work proposals.

- 340 **Senator Sherry:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Treasurer, no later than 2.30 pm on Friday, 2 December 2005, all correspondence in relation to the nomination and appointment of Mr Robert Gerard to the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia, from 1 January 2003 until 1 December 2005, between:

- (a) the Department of the Treasury and the Treasurer (Mr Costello);
- (b) the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister (Mr Howard); and
- (c) the Attorney-General (Mr Ruddock) and the Treasurer.

Notice given 2 December 2005

- 343 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) abhors the hanging of Australian citizen Mr Nguyen Tuong Van in Singapore on Friday, 2 December 2005; and
- (b) reiterates its opposition to the death penalty wherever in the world it is invoked.

Notice given 5 December 2005

- 349 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the Senate notes that:

- (a) Adelaide University Union is no longer able to fund student radio services on Radio Adelaide (formerly 5UV);
- (b) 5UV and Radio Adelaide played a key role in the media and cultural development of students in South Australia; and
- (c) 5UV was the first community radio licence to be granted in Australia in 1972 and student radio began in 1975.

Notice given 6 December 2005

350 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) 13 Australians face the death penalty in Vietnam, Kuwait and Indonesia,
 - (ii) Australia ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), aiming at the abolition of the death penalty on 2 October 1990, and
 - (iii) the protocol gives effect to Article 6 of the ICCPR which refers to the abolition of the death penalty and gives effect to an international commitment to abolish the death penalty by ratifying states; and
- (b) calls on the Government to lead an international campaign for the ratification and implementation of the optional protocol by all remaining states, in particular, those states such as Singapore, Vietnam, China and Indonesia that continue to use the death penalty.

Notice given 7 December 2005

*353 **Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Tuesday, 28 February 2006, from 4.30 pm to 9 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the economic impact of salinity on the Australian environment.

*354 **Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee on the economic impact of salinity on the Australian environment be extended to 28 March 2006.

*355 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) supports the statement by 18 prominent academics and medical professionals calling on the Government and all Australians to secure a healthy future for our children, grandchildren and generations to come by rejecting any role for nuclear power in Australia, opposing any expansion of uranium exports, vigorously pursuing the real, sustainable solutions to climate change, free of nuclear dangers, improving energy efficiency, managing energy demand, and massively investing in benign, renewable energy technologies;
- (b) notes that their primary concerns with an expansion of nuclear power and uranium exports are:
 - (i) the failure of nuclear power to address climate change—nuclear power generation requires substantial fossil fuel inputs and takes many years to scale up and if nuclear power were used to generate all electricity currently consumed globally, we would exhaust all known recoverable supplies of uranium in just 9 years,
 - (ii) the increased risk of proliferation of nuclear weapons—the potential for use of nuclear weapons remains the greatest immediate threat to global health, and this risk is growing,

- (iii) the potential misuse of Australian uranium—no absolute guarantees can be made that Australian uranium will not find its way into nuclear weapons,
 - (iv) the growing dangers of nuclear terrorism—there is clear evidence that in recent years terrorist groups have tried to acquire radioactive materials and nuclear weapons, constructing a simple nuclear weapon is technically easy if fissile material were obtained from the large existing stockpiles and the use of a radiological, or ‘dirty’, bomb is probably inevitable,
 - (v) the risk of nuclear accidents—as nuclear technology becomes more widespread, the chance of critical contamination of our environment becomes greater as no technology is immune from human or technical error, and serious nuclear accidents continue to occur, and
 - (vi) the unsolved problem of nuclear waste—the problem of nuclear waste is intractable; a burden irresponsibly imposed on countless future generations and no nation has in place a satisfactory plan to deal with the tens of tonnes of high-level radioactive waste produced by each nuclear power plant each year; and
- (c) calls on the Government to:
- (i) abandon research and plans to establish a nuclear power industry in Australia,
 - (ii) abandon plans to expand uranium mining and export in Australia,
 - (iii) take practical action to drive greater investment in clean renewable energy, energy efficiency and gas, and
 - (iv) increase research into ways to improve energy efficiency and to manage energy demand throughout industry and domestic power use.

*356 **Senators Nash and Troeth, the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) and Senator Moore:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to repeal Ministerial responsibility for approval for RU486, and for related purposes. *Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Repeal of Ministerial responsibility for approval of RU486) Bill 2005.*

Notice of motion altered on 7 December 2005 pursuant to standing order 77.

*357 **Senator Sherry:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Treasurer, no later than 2.30 pm on Thursday, 8 December 2005, all correspondence in relation to the nomination and appointment of Mr Robert Gerard to the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia, from 1 January 2003 until 1 December 2005, between:

- (a) the Department of the Treasury and the Treasurer (Mr Costello);
- (b) the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister (Mr Howard); and
- (c) the Attorney-General (Mr Ruddock) and the Treasurer.

Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

- 1 **Ombudsman Act 1976—Inquiry into the circumstances of the Vivian Alvarez matter—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman of an inquiry undertaken by Mr Neil Comrie, AO, APM (Report no. 3 of 2005)**

Reports to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Senator Vanstone) from the Secretary, Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

Implementation of the recommendations of the Palmer report of inquiry into the circumstances of the immigration detention of Cornelia Rau, dated September 2005

Response to the recommendations of the report of the Commonwealth Ombudsman of the inquiry into the circumstances of the Vivian Alvarez matter, dated October 2005

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the documents (*adjourned, Senator Webber, 10 November 2005*).

- 2 **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Report—Weapons of mass destruction: Australia's role in fighting proliferation: Practical responses to new challenges**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Siewert—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Marshall, 10 November 2005*).

- 3 **National Water Commission—Report for the period 17 December 2004 to 30 June 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Siewert—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Stephens, 10 November 2005*).

- 4 **Northern Territory Fisheries Joint Authority—Report for 2002-03**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Siewert—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Marshall, 10 November 2005*).

- 5 **Employment Advocate—Report for 2004-05**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Siewert—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Marshall, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

- 6 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, done at New York on 25 May 2000**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Stephens, 10 November 2005*).

- 7 **Department of Family and Community Services—Report for 2004-05**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 10 November 2005*).

- 8 **Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Report for 2004-05**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 10 November 2005*).

- 9 **Commissioner for Complaints [Aged care]—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 10 November 2005*).
- 10 **Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Stephens, 10 November 2005*).
- 11 **Department of Health and Ageing—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 10 November 2005*).
- 12 **Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Limited—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 10 November 2005*).
- 13 **Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Stephens, 10 November 2005*).
- 14 **Industrial Relations Court of Australia—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Hogg, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).
- 15 **Department of Defence—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Stephens, in continuation, 30 November 2005*).
- 16 **Indigenous Business Australia—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Stephens, in continuation, 30 November 2005*).
- 17 **Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Sherry, in continuation, 30 November 2005*).
- 18 **Office of the Privacy Commissioner—Report for 2004-05 on the operation of the Privacy Act 1988**
Consideration (*29 November 2005*).
- 19 **Official Establishments Trust—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (*29 November 2005*).
- 20 **Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (*29 November 2005*).
- 21 **Dairy Adjustment Authority—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (*29 November 2005*).
- 22 **Maritime Industry Finance Company Limited—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (*29 November 2005*).

- 23 **Anglo-Australian Telescope Board—Anglo-Australian Observatory—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 24 **Wet Tropics Management Authority—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 25 **Industry Research and Development Board—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 26 **Migration Agents Registration Authority—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 27 **Australia-China Council—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 28 **National Institute of Clinical Studies Limited—Report for 2004-05**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 29 **Australian Bureau of Statistics—Information paper—Census of population and housing 2006—Nature and content**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 30 **Multilateral treaty—Annexures—Appendix 1: World Anti-Doping Convention and Addendum to Appendix 2—United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization International Convention Against Doping in Sport, done at Paris on 19 October 2005 [Treaty tabled on 9 November 2005—Appendix 1 omitted]**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 31 **Bilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China concerning transfer of sentenced persons, done at Hong Kong on 25 November 2005**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 32 **Bilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Turkey for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, done at Canberra on 16 June 2005**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 33 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Amendments, adopted at Punta del Este on 6 May 2005, to add a new Annex (Annex G) to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), done at Stockholm on 22 May 2001**
Consideration (29 November 2005).

- 34 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Universal Postal Union: Seventh Additional Protocol to the Constitution of 10 July 1964, as amended; Convention, and Final Protocol; General Regulations, done at Bucharest on 5 October 2004**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 35 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Amendments, adopted on 30 June 2005, to the Statue of the Hague Conference on Private International Law of 31 October 1951**
Consideration (29 November 2005).
- 36 **Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 30 November 2005*).
- 37 **Australian Customs Service—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).
- 38 **Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).
- 39 **Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Inc.—Native Title Unit—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).
- 40 **North Queensland Land Council Native Title Representative Body Aboriginal Corporation—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).
- 41 **Torres Strait Regional Authority—Report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).
- 42 **Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator—Financial report for 2004-05**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).
- 43 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Covering statement by the Commonwealth Ombudsman**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).

- *44 **Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of an inquiry into a complaint by Mr Zacharias Manongga Consul for the Northern Territory, Consul of the Republic of Indonesia that the human rights of Indonesian fishers detained on vessels in Darwin Harbour were breached by the Commonwealth of Australia (HREOC report no. 31)**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).

- *45 **Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited (ARTC)—Report for 2004-05**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Webber—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Webber, in continuation, 7 December 2005*).

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Anti-Genocide Bill 1999 [2004]—(Senate bill)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 2 **Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 3 **Constitution Alteration (Appropriations for the Ordinary Annual Services of the Government) 2001 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senators Murray and Stott Despoja)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 4 **Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
(*This bill may be considered together with the Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003 [2004] during the second reading debate, order of 13 October 2005.*)
- 5 **Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett and Senator Stott Despoja)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bishop, in continuation, 10 February 2005*) (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 6 **Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
(*This bill may be considered together with the Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2004] during the second reading debate, order of 13 October 2005.*)
- 7 **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 8 **Euthanasia Laws (Repeal) Bill 2004—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).

- 9 **Financial Management and Accountability (Anti-Restrictive Software Practices) Amendment Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 10 **Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 11 **Genetic Privacy and Non-discrimination Bill 1998 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 12 **Ministers of State (Post-Retirement Employment Restrictions) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Stott Despoja and Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 13 **National Animal Welfare Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 14 **Patents Amendment Bill 1996 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 15 **Parliamentary Approval of Treaties Bill 1995 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 16 **Public Interest Disclosure (Protection of Whistleblowers) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 17 **Reconciliation Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 18 **Republic (Consultation of the People) Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 19 **Sexuality Anti-Vilification Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 20 **Sexuality and Gender Identity Discrimination Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 21 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 22 **Textbook Subsidy Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 23 **Uranium Mining in or near Australian World Heritage Properties (Prohibition) Bill 1998 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).

24 Workplace Relations Amendment (Paid Maternity Leave) Bill 2002 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Stott Despoja)

Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).

25 Communications—Telstra

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) the Government has failed to ensure that telecommunications service standards are up to scratch in rural and regional Australia,
- (ii) the chief of the Government's telecommunications inquiry, Mr Dick Estens, has said that telecommunications services in the bush remain a 'shemozzle', and
- (iii) selling Telstra will cost the budget \$255 million over the next 4 years; and

(b) calls on the Government to keep Telstra in majority public ownership to ensure reliable telecommunications services for all Australians (*Senator Heffernan, in continuation, 18 November 2004*).

26 Criminal Code Amendment (Workplace Death and Serious Injury) Bill 2004—(Senate bill)—(Senator Nettle)

Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 30 November 2004*).

27 Constitution Alteration (Right to Stand for Parliament—Qualification of Members and Candidates) 1998 (No. 2) [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)

In committee (*committee to consider the bill as reported by the committee of the whole on 15 May 2003*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 1 December 2004*).

28 Senate Voters' Choice (Preference Allocation) Bill 2004—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 9 December 2004*).

29 Flags Amendment (Eureka Flag) Bill 2004—(Senate bill)—(Senator Marshall)

Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 9 December 2004*).

31 Economy

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate—

(a) notes the deterioration in the economy including the record current account deficit of 7.1 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), record net foreign debt of \$422 billion, the negative household savings ratio and among the lowest GDP growth rates of the advanced economies; and

(b) calls on the Government:

- (i) to acknowledge that there are severe economic imbalances in the economy that threaten to push interest rates still higher,
- (ii) to implement policies that will lift the productive potential of the economy,
- (iii) to invest in skills development to ease skill shortages which are now at 20 year highs, and
- (iv) to support infrastructure investment to ease capacity constraints and inflation pressures and promote exports (*Senator Lundy, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

- 32 **Spyware Bill 2005—(Senate bill)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (12 May 2005).
- 33 **Family and Community Services—Welfare reform**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Wong—That the Senate notes the Howard Government’s cuts to the incomes of the most vulnerable families in Australia, its introduction of a parents’ dole and a disability dole, and its failure to effectively tackle the need for real welfare reform (12 May 2005).
- 34 **Migration Amendment (Act of Compassion) Bill 2005**
Migration Amendment (Mandatory Detention) Bill 2005—(Senate bills)—
(Senator Nettle and the Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Nettle, in continuation, 16 June 2005).
- 36 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Scholarships) Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—**
(Senator Stott Despoja)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 21 June 2005).
- 37 **Transparent Advertising and Notification of Pregnancy Counselling Services Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Senator Stott Despoja)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 23 June 2005).
- 38 **Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003 [2005]—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), in continuation, 15 September 2005) (restored pursuant to resolution of 11 August 2005).
- 39 **Employment—Skills shortages—Training policies**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator George Campbell—That the Senate notes that:
- (a) the Howard Government’s training policies since 1996 have contributed to Australia’s current skills shortages in the traditional trades; and
 - (b) the Government’s inaction in addressing this national skills crisis is hurting Australian businesses, families, young people and the economy (Senator Moore, in continuation, 11 August 2005).
- 40 **Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Ministerial responsibility**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate expresses its deep concern that the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Senator Vanstone) has failed to take responsibility for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs despite the ongoing revelations and rising financial and human cost of the portfolio mismanagement (18 August 2005).

- 41 **36th Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference, APIA, Samoa, 11 to 15 July 2005 and ancillary meetings—Report by Deputy President Senator John Hogg and Deputy Speaker the Honourable Ian Causley MP, dated August 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferguson—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ferguson, in continuation, 6 September 2005*).

- 42 **Parliament—Senate—Processes and procedures**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate condemns the Government's arrogant abuse of its Senate majority in subverting the Senate's processes and procedures (*Senator Santoro, in continuation, 8 September 2005*).

- 43 **Enhancements to the Australian Defence Force military justice system, 5 October 2005—Ministerial statement**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bishop—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Hogg, in continuation, 5 October 2005*).

- 44 **Australian electoral system**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate opposes attempts by the Government to restrict the franchise and reduce the transparency of the Australian electoral system (*Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz), in continuation, 6 October 2005*).

- 45 **Parliamentary Charter of Rights and Freedoms Bill 2001 [2005]—(Senate bill)**

Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 9 November 2005*).

- 46 **Law and Justice—Australia's border security**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate notes the incompetence of the Howard Government in its failure to protect Australia's border security, quarantine and environmental integrity and its fishery resource in northern Australia and northern Australian waters (*Senator Ronaldson, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next day of sitting (9 December 2005)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**

Report to be presented on matters specified in paragraph (c) of the terms of reference for the inquiry into the Chen Yonglin and Vivian Solon cases and any related matters.

On 21 December 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**

Report to be presented on the administration of the Migration Act.

By the first sitting day of 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On the first day of the autumn sittings 2006

Government Business—Orders of the Day

1 **Statute Law Revision Bill (No. 2) 2005—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (30 November 2005).

2 **Defence (Road Transport Legislation Exemption) Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (30 November 2005).

*3 **Tax Laws Amendment (Improvements to Self Assessment) Bill (No. 2) 2005—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 December 2005).

*4 **Fisheries Legislation Amendment (Cooperative Fisheries Arrangements and Other Matters) Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 December 2005).

*5 **Jurisdiction of Courts (Family Law) Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 December 2005).

*6 **Jurisdiction of the Federal Magistrates Court Legislation Amendment Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 December 2005).

*7 **Defence Legislation Amendment (Aid to Civilian Authorities) Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 December 2005).

*8 **Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005—(Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 December 2005).

On 7 February 2006

Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

Notice given 30 November 2005

- 1 **Senator Ludwig:** To move—That item 2 [Division 1.4E—Sponsorship: trade skills training (incorporating Subdivisions 1.4E.1 to 1.4E.4)] of Schedule 7 of the Migration Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 9), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 240 and made under the *Migration Act 1958*, be disallowed.

Ten sitting days remain for resolving.**

** *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the item will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 13 October 2005

- 298 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Privacy Act 1988* to provide for the uniform application of the Act and to remove from the Act the exemption for political acts and practices, and for related purposes. *Privacy (Equality of Application) Amendment Bill 2005.*

By the second sitting day of 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**

Report to be presented on the economic impact of salinity on the Australian environment.

On 8 February 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

- 1 **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (12 October 2005).

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 29 November 2005

334 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the recent Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) conference passed a resolution calling on ‘the Federal Coalition Government, the Opposition and all federal politicians to develop a national strategy in partnership with state and local governments and key stakeholders to address the issue of sexual assault on children in Australia’;
- (b) congratulates the ALGA for demonstrating its commitment to this important national issue; and
- (c) expresses its support for the resolution and for the call for all federal politicians to develop a national strategy on this crucial and pressing matter in partnership with state, territory and local governments and key stakeholders.

On 27 February 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Australian Citizenship Bill 2005 and the Australian Citizenship (Transitionals and Consequentials) Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 2 March 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Community Affairs References Committee**

Report to be presented on workplace exposure to toxic dust.

Eleven sitting days after today

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 2 December 2005

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Regulations 2005, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 204 and made under the *Building and Construction Industry Improvement Act 2005*, be disallowed.

Twelve sitting days remain for resolving.**

- 2 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That the Guide to the Assessment of the Degree of Permanent Impairment [second edition], made under subsection 28(1) of the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*, be disallowed.

Twelve sitting days remain for resolving.**

** *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the Regulations and Guide will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

On the tenth sitting day of 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legislation Committees**

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 31 October 2005.

By the Thursday of the second sitting week in March 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Mental Health—Select Committee**

Report to be presented.

On 30 March 2006

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Community Affairs References Committee**

Report to be presented on petrol sniffing in remote Aboriginal communities.

2 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**

Report to be presented on the geo-political and strategic aspects of Australia's relationship with China.

By the last sitting day in March 2006

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**

Report to be presented on water policy initiatives.

*2 **Community Affairs References Committee**

Response to petition on the management and prevention of gynaecological cancers and sexually transmitted infections.

On 15 June 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**

Report to be presented on Australia's future oil supply.

By the last sitting day in June 2006

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories.

2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the National Animal Welfare Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

General Business—Order of the Day

35 **National Animal Welfare Bill 2005—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 20 June 2005*).

On 17 August 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

*1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**

Report to be presented on Pacific region seasonal contract labour.

On 30 November 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

*1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**

Report to be presented on Australia's national parks.

By the last sitting day in 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**

Report to be presented on naval shipbuilding in Australia.

BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Bills currently referred†

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Bill 2005‡

Referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (*referred 9 November 2005; reporting date: 8 February 2006*).

National Animal Welfare Bill 2005‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*referred 22 June 2005; reporting date varied 10 August 2005; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2006*).

Provisions of bills currently referred†**Australian Citizenship Bill 2005‡****Australian Citizenship (Transitionals and Consequentials) Bill 2005‡**

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 30 November 2005; reporting date: 27 February 2006*).

Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 7 September 2005; reporting date varied 11 October 2005; reporting date: first sitting day in 2006*).

†Further information about the progress of these bills may be found in the Senate Bills List at www.aph.gov.au/parlinfo/billsnet/billslst.pdf.

‡Pursuant to adoption of report of Selection of Bills Committee.

BILLS DISCHARGED, LAID ASIDE OR NEGATIVED

Government Bill**Superannuation Laws Amendment (Abolition of Surcharge) Bill 2005**

Second reading negatived, 15 June 2005.

Restored to *Notice Paper* pursuant to resolution of 10 August 2005 and passed.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions remaining unanswered

Question Nos, as shown, from 29 to 1353 remain unanswered for 30 or more days (see standing order 74(5)).

Notice given 16 November 2004

- 29 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Leader of the Government in the Senate—When will the Minister respond to Senator Allison’s letter of 7 April 2003 concerning orders for the production of documents.
- 49 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Is the Minister, in his capacity as Manager of Government Business in the Senate, aware of the following statement made by the Minister for Small Business and Tourism (Mr Hockey) in a *Meet the Press* interview aired on 14 September 2003: ‘What I do know is the Labor Party and the Democrats

are holding up a vast amount of legislation that the Government has put in place in the Senate’.

- (2) Does the Minister accept the *Australian Concise Oxford Dictionary’s* definition of ‘vast’ as ‘immense, huge, very great’.
- (3) Can the Minister: (a) provide a list for the Senate of any bill that could conceivably be regarded as being held up, as described by Mr Hockey; and (b) give his reasons for making that judgment.

Notice given 17 November 2004

56 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to all forms of end product report by the Defence Signals Directorate (DSD reports) which summarise raw intelligence product:

- (1) Which ministers received any of the DSD reports that were found by the Inspector-General to be in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons.
- (2) On what precise dates did this occur.
- (3) Which minister’s offices, that is personal staff members or departmental liaison officers, received the DSD reports that were in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons.
- (4) On what precise dates did this occur.
- (5) Did any departments receive any of the DSD reports that were in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons; if so, which ones and on what dates.
- (6) For both (1) and (3), were all four DSD reports that the Inspector-General found breached the rules received by any minister or minister’s office; if not, how many of the four reports were received by each of the ministers and/or minister’s office.
- (7) Of those reports that were made in breach of the rules and were received by a minister and/or minister’s office, did they include either of the two reports containing intelligence information on communications by an Australian lawyer with a foreign client.

(In this question, the phrase ‘DSD reports’ refers to all forms of end product by the DSD which summarise raw intelligence product. Such reports are variously referred to in the summary of the Inspector-General for Security and Intelligence’s *MV Tampa* investigation as ‘reports summarising the results of collection activity’, ‘end product reports’ and ‘situation updates’.)

57 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Defence and Industry Advisory Council

- (1) When was the council established.
- (2) Who established the council.
- (3) For what purpose was the council established.
- (4) Can a copy of the council’s terms of reference be provided.
- (5) What is the membership of the council.
- (6) What are the reporting arrangements for the council, for example: (a) to whom does it report; (b) how regularly are such reports made; and (c) what do the reports contain.

- (7) Can a list be provided of meeting dates for the council since its establishment.

60 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can the following information about each committee within Defence chaired by a one star rank equivalent or higher be provided: (a) name of the committee; (b) its function and role; and (c) when it met during 2002 and 2003.
- (2) (a) For the years 2001, 2002 and 2003, when did the Defence Industry Advisory Council meet; (b) what is its function and role; and (c) what is its current membership.

68 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—(a) What is the Halliburton stake in the consortium which built and operates the Alice Springs to Darwin railway line; (b) was Halliburton the project leader; and (c) what discussions has the Prime Minister or the department had with Halliburton about the projects, including where and when these were held.

Notice given 19 November 2004

103 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Since March 1996, on how many occasions has the Prime Minister stayed at Claridges Hotel in Mayfair, London.
- (2) On what dates did the Prime Minister stay at this self-described “five star, de luxe, luxury” hotel.
- (3) On his most recent trip to London, did the Prime Minister stay in the Brook Apartment penthouse suite, described by the hotel as ‘220 square metres/2,368 square feet (approximately), 2 King Beds. This stunning apartment has been restored in the Art Deco style with an elegant, gentle mauve décor, light oak floors and original fittings from the 1930s. The bedrooms are large and luxurious, each with their own dressing-rooms. The marble bathrooms are equally splendid with extra deep baths and separate showers. A beautiful sitting-room with full height windows looks out onto a stunning private roof terrace. In addition, there is an elegant dining-room with a cocktail bar and cloakroom. A personal butler service is provided with the penthouse’.
- (4) What was the cost of the Prime Minister’s: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (c) other items (please specify) at Claridges for this recent trip.
- (5) How many other rooms and suites were used by the Prime Minister’s party for this trip, and for what purposes.
- (6) For the Prime Minister’s most recent trip, what were the costs for the Prime Minister’s party, excluding the Prime Minister, of: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (d) other items (please specify).
- (7) Apart from the services provided and paid for outlined under (3) and (4) above, did the hotel provide any other services to the Prime Minister and his party.
- (8) Has the bill for the hotel been presented and paid; if not, why not; if so, who paid the bill.

- (9) On each of the occasions the Prime Minister has used this hotel since 1996, has he always stayed at the Brook Apartment penthouse suite; if not, on which occasion has he used other suites in the hotel, and which suites were used.
- (10) On each occasion that the Prime Minister stayed at the hotel, what was the cost of the Prime Minister's: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (c) other items (please specify).
- (11) On each occasion that the Prime Minister stayed at the hotel since March 1996, how much was paid by the department to the hotel for associated costs excluding the amounts at (7) above.

105 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the Superannuation Co-contribution advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) mail outs with brochures and letters signed by Mr Carmody; and (e) advertising research.
- (2) When did TV advertising screening begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) How many letters were sent by Mr Carmody.
- (4) On what basis was the mail out selected.
- (5) What database was used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) Given that the advertisements now do not reflect Government policy on the co-contribution, is there any plan to update the campaign; if so, what campaign components will be updated and how much will this cost.
- (7) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (8) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (9) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (8) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (10) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Notice given 8 December 2004

Senator Bishop: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 166-168)—With reference to the Minister's official engagements on 15 November 2004:

- (1) Where did each engagement occur.
- (2) What was the nature of each engagement.
- (3) What was the start and finish time of each engagement.
- (4) (a) When was the Minister invited to, or when did the Minister first become aware of, each engagement; and (b) on what date did the Minister commit to attending each engagement.
- (5) (a) Who attended each engagement; and (b) in what capacity did they attend.
- (6) What was the cost incurred by the Commonwealth in arranging or ensuring the Minister's attendance at each engagement.
- (7) Will the Minister provide details of invitations or approaches to attend other official engagements on 15 November 2004 which the Minister either declined or delegated.

168 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Notice given 20 December 2004

211 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) What alleged breaches of the *Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* (December, 1998) have been brought to the attention of the Prime Minister and/or his office since its inception.
- (2) In each case: (a) who was the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary responsible for the alleged breach; (b) what was the nature of the alleged breach; (c) on what date did the Prime Minister and/or his office become aware of the alleged breach; (d) what was the source of information about the alleged breach; (e) how did the Prime Minister investigate the alleged breach; (f) if the Prime Minister did not investigate the alleged breach, why not; (g) what finding did the Prime Minister make in relation to the alleged breach, and on what date did the Prime Minister make the finding; and (h) what action, if any, did the Prime Minister take, and on what date did the Prime Minister take such action.

Notice given 23 December 2004

278 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—On what date(s) has the Prime Minister visited: (a) Christmas Island; (b) the Cocos (Keeling) Islands; and (c) Norfolk Island.

288 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the proponents of a steel profiling plant at Moruya, New South Wales, listed in the Dairy Regional Assistance Program project summary of round 6 for the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) was the Minister or his office contacted by any person on behalf of the proponents of the above project.
- (2) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Federal Member for Eden Monaro (Mr Nairn) in relation to the above project.

- (3) Was the Minister or his office contacted by any member of the South East New South Wales Area Consultative Committee in relation to the above project.
- (4) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, or his staff, or officers of the Department of Transport and Regional Services in relation to the above project.
- (5) With reference to any contact by the persons listed above with the Minister or his office: (a) when did each communication take place; (b) who was involved in each communication; (c) what was the nature of each communication; (d) what was the form of each communication; and (e) which officers from the department were involved in any way in these contacts.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 293-296)—

- (1) On what date(s) did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, become aware that Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd proposed to import a shipment of ethanol to Australia from Brazil in September 2002.
- (2) What was the source of this information to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department.
- (3) Was the Minister or his office or the department requested to investigate and/or take action to prevent the arrival of this shipment by any ethanol producer or distributor or industry organisation; if so: (a) who made this request; (b) when was it made; and (c) what form did this request take.
- (4) Did the Minister or his office or the department engage in discussions and/or activities in August 2002 or September 2002 to develop a proposal to prevent the arrival of this shipment of ethanol from Brazil; if so, what was the nature of these discussions and/or activities, including dates of discussions and/or activities, personnel involved and cost.

293 Minister representing the Prime Minister

298 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Did the Minister receive a request from the Minister for Trade to authorise staff at the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 to gather and provide information about a proposed shipment of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd.
- (2) Did staff at the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 gather and provide information about a proposed shipment of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd; if so: (a) who requested the staff to engage in that task; (b) who authorised staff to agree to the request; (c) what action did staff take; (d) which staff engaged in the task; (e) on what date(s) did staff engage in the task; (f) what was the cost of engaging in the task; (g) to whom did the staff deliver this information in Australia; and (h) what form did that communication take.

307 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has the Prime Minister's office had any involvement in the Government's response to legal claims against the Commonwealth by Mr Mark McMurtrie of New Italy, New South Wales; if so, what involvement has the Prime Minister's office had in relation to this matter.

- (2) Has the Prime Minister's office convened any meetings at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices in Sydney, or any other location, with Mr McMurtrie and/or any other party to discuss a resolution to Mr McMurtrie's claims; if so, for each meeting:
 - (a) when and at what time was the meeting held;
 - (b) what was discussed; and
 - (c) who was present.
- (3) Have members of the Prime Minister's office given to Mr McMurtrie, or any other party, orally or in writing, any undertakings in respect to the resolution of Mr McMurtrie's claims; if so:
 - (a) which staff member gave these undertakings; and
 - (b) in each case:
 - (i) what was the undertaking,
 - (ii) who received the undertaking,
 - (iii) when was the undertaking given, and
 - (iv) was the undertaking given orally or in writing, if orally:
 - (A) at what time, and
 - (B) how was it provided (i.e. telephone, meeting etc.), and if written, can a copy of the undertaking be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) Has the Prime Minister and/or his office received correspondence from third parties who are concerned about the conduct of the Prime Minister's office in relation to this matter; if so:
 - (a) what was the nature of the concerns expressed on each occasion; and
 - (b) can a copy of the correspondence be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Is the Prime Minister aware of the obligations imposed on ministers by *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* (December 1998) with respect to the timely response to questions on notice.
- (6) Is the Prime Minister aware that a question placed on notice during the previous Parliament in precisely the same terms as this question lapsed unanswered after 210 days.

Notice given 10 March 2005

447 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) In each of the past 5 years what funds have been spent at Gallipoli on:
 - (a) capital works;
 - (b) travel by officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG);
 - (c) entertainment; and
 - (d) other costs including the provision of public facilities.
- (2) What specific capital works have been funded directly by Australia or as part contribution to works conducted by the Government of Turkey.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of any funding contributed by the New Zealand Government, and the purpose of that funding.
- (4) In each of the past five years, on how many occasions have discussions been held with Turkish authorities concerning the upgrading of the road.

- (5) Was the OAWG consulted by Turkish authorities on the design, funding and timing of the current road works; if so, when and, if consulted in writing, can a copy of the correspondence be provided; if not, why not.
- (6) What Commonwealth funding has been, or will be, contributed to the upgrading of the road.
- (7) (a) Have representations been made to the Government of Turkey to suspend the upgrading of the current road works; if so, when and by whom; and (b) if consultations were made in writing, can a copy of the correspondence be made available to the Senate; if not, why not.
- (8) What investigations have been made by OAWG, or its agents, into allegations that human remains have been uncovered, and in some cases destroyed, at the current road works.
- (9) What research and examination was conducted prior to the current road works with respect to: (a) the environment; and (b) sites of military significance.
- (10) How many Australians were posted missing at Gallipoli and never found.
- (11) When were discussions last held with Turkish authorities concerning reported plans to charge admission to the Gallipoli site.
- (12) On each of the past five Anzac days, what was the estimated crowd at Gallipoli.
- (13) What is the estimated budget for Anzac Day 2005, in total, and, for the entertainment component.
- (14) How many Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel will be in attendance in 2005, and at what cost.
- (15) Which Federal Parliamentarians have, or will be, invited to travel to Turkey to attend the commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing.
- (16) What is the estimated cost to the Commonwealth of Federal Parliamentarians travelling to Turkey for this commemoration.
- (17) Can the Minister confirm what proportion of these costs will be met from the Saluting Their Service program.
- (18) (a) What regulation is conducted by Turkish authorities with respect to the sale and consumption of alcohol at Gallipoli; (b) what representations have been made on this subject; and (c) by whom and with what result.

Notice given 17 March 2005

Senator Bob Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 469-474)—With reference to Gunns' proposed pulp mill at Bell Bay in Tasmania:

- (1) From January 2002 to date, what communications have there been between the Minister, the Minister's staff or department and Gunns Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill, and in each case: (a) what was the date of the communication; (b) what was the nature of the communication; (c) who was involved in the communication; and (d) what was the purpose and content of the communication.

- (2) (a) What conditions apply to the Government's offer of \$5 million assistance for the pulp mill; and (b) when is the money likely to be made available.

469 Minister representing the Prime Minister

471 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

Notice given 18 March 2005

477 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Further to questions on notice nos 447 and 464, on how many occasions since August 2004 has Air Vice Marshal (AVM) Beck, Director of the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG), visited Turkey.
- (2) For each of AVM Beck's visits: (a) what was the itinerary of each visit; (b) what was the cost of each visit; (c) what meetings did he have with Turkish officials; and (d) on each occasion, with whom did he speak.
- (3) When was AVM Beck first provided with information from Turkish officials concerning road works at Gallipoli.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm if AVM Beck consulted with the Outer Area Office of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) in Maidenhead, United Kingdom, or the out station at Canakkale, Turkey.
- (5) What, if any, consultation was there with tour operators in Australia, Istanbul or Canakkale.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that the planning procedures for these road works were the same as those for the construction of the Peace Park; if not, why not.
- (7) When was AVM Beck first provided with prepared options and draft plans, either as impressions or as formal drawings.
- (8) How many options were provided, and what, if any, feedback was given.
- (9) Did the options include stopping the road works short of Anzac Cove, or an alternative route to landward; if so, why were they not pursued.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm precisely which sections of the road were subject to these consultations.
- (11) What information, by way of drawings, photographs, or graphic images were provided by AVM Beck for Turkish consideration.
- (12) Currently, what is the width of each section of the road, and what is the width of each new section.
- (13) (a) Have other officers visited Turkey to assist AVM Beck, if so who; and (b) what has been the total cost of their travel.
- (14) Has OAWG established an office at Canakkale; if so: (a) what was the cost; (b) for how long; and (c) by whom was it staffed.
- (15) (a) What technical advice has been sought from consultants in connection with the road plans; (b) for what purpose; (c) from whom was the information sought; and (d) what was the cost.
- (16) What expressions of concern were made by AVM Beck to Turkish officials on the extent of the earth works and the disfigurement of the cliff face.
- (17) (a) What measures were considered to prevent erosion; and (b) what volume of material is planned to be placed in the sea or on the beach.

- (18) Did the plans provide for environmental regeneration and protection.
- (19) Did Australia provide technical advice on any part of the construction including drainage, erosion protection, traffic management, replanting or visitor control and if so, who provided that advice.
- (20) (a) Apart from the road construction, what other broader planning was undertaken prior to this project to examine the effect of tourism on the whole Gallipoli site; (b) what strategic planning has been undertaken; and (c) what input has been provided by the Government.
- (21) Over the past 5 years: (a) what consultancy or expert advice has been sought with respect to the preservation of heritage values on the entire Gallipoli site; (b) what are the details of each consultancy or advice; and (c) what are the costs.
- (22) At any stage, did AVM Beck object to the scope of the Turkish plans and were those concerns conveyed to the Minister; if so: (a) when and in what form was that concern expressed to the Minister; and (b) what was the Minister's response.
- (23) (a) Did AVM Beck object to the Turkish plans; (b) was a request made for amendments, or for work to be suspended; if so: (i) when were these requests made, and (ii) what were the responses.
- (24) Can the Minister confirm the number of occasions, and the dates, of these discussions held with the Embassy of Turkey in Canberra on this project, and which departments were represented.
- (25) Did the Minister and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade receive representations from the Government of Turkey in Canberra or Ankara, on the detailed planning for this project; if so, can this information be provided.
- (26) In each of the options considered; (a) what variations were there with respect to parking at all sites; (b) which of the variations were requested by Australia; (c) which of the variations were objected to by Australia; and (d) what was the outcome.
- (27) As part of the works now under way, what parking capacity is being provided for buses and cars, and at what sites.
- (28) How many cubic metres of soil are being removed from the sites, and how is it being disposed of.
- (29) On how many occasions has AVM Beck briefed the Minister since August 2004.
- (30) Has the Department of Environment and Heritage been consulted, at any stage, on any options; if so, what was its response.
- (31) Was the Australian War Memorial (AWM) involved in any of the planning process, and in particular, what advice was sought and provided on likely burial sites of those missing from 1915 in the areas affected by the roads.
- (32) What information was provided by the CWGC on the likely burial sites of missing Australians, and what were the terms of that advice.
- (33) What other capital works were subject to consultations by AVM Beck, for which facilities, and where.
- (34) Did Australia offer any capital support for any of the works discussed; if so, what was the cost and what were the purposes.

- (35) With reference to the entertainment to be provided during the ANZAC Day period at Gallipoli 2005, which entertainers other than Mr John Farnham were considered or contacted, and were Mr Guy Sebastian and Ms Casey Chambers included on those lists.
- (36) (a) Who contacted Mr John Farnham; (b) over what period did discussions continue on his engagement; (c) what were the terms of the proposed engagement; and (d) what was the estimated cost of his services.
- (37) (a) On whose direction was the proposal for Mr John Farnham's engagement cancelled; (b) did this direction require cancellation of any agreement or contract; if so: (i) was there a cancellation fee, and (ii) what was the cost of that cancellation fee.
- (38) (a) What process was instituted to select the contractors providing the sound and light show; (b) was it an open or selective tender process; and (c) why were Australian providers not considered and selected.
- (39) How many ministerial representations have been received by the Minister to 30 March 2005 on the matter of entertainment at Gallipoli and the road works.
- (40) What is the cost of the contract for the sound and light show, and what is the name of the contractor(s) selected.
- (41) How was the string quartet selected, who are they, and what is the cost.
- (42) How many Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel will be in attendance from Australia and other locations, and at what cost.
- (43) How many persons in the following categories will be in attendance: (a) officials from Australia (b) officials from Turkey; (c) elected representatives; and (d) members of royalty.
- (44) How many will be in the official party, and of those, how many will be funded by Australia and at what cost.
- (45) How many veterans have been included in the official party, who are they, and what is the cost of their travel.
- (46) How many officials with security responsibilities will be in attendance from Australia, and from which agencies.

Notice given 8 April 2005

494 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has the Prime Minister authorised Senator Guy Barnett to make any financial offer on behalf of the Commonwealth to elected representatives or employees of Launceston City Council in connection with the Elphin Sports Precinct project; if so: (a) when did the Prime Minister provide such authorisation; (b) what were the terms of the authorisation, including the quantum of available Commonwealth funding; and (c) when did Senator Barnett make an offer on behalf of the Commonwealth and, on each occasion, what were the terms of the offer.
- (2) Did any other minister authorise Senator Barnett to make any financial offer on behalf of the Commonwealth in connection with the Elphin Sports Precinct project; if so, in each case: (a) who was the minister, and when did that minister provide such authorisation; (b) what were the terms of the authorisation, including the quantum of available Commonwealth funding; and (c) when did Senator Barnett make an offer on behalf of the Commonwealth and, on each occasion, what were the terms of the offer.

- (3) Has any financial offer from the Commonwealth towards the Elphin Sports Precinct project been varied; if so, when and how was it varied.

Notice given 20 April 2005

551 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) For each of the past 3 financial years, including 2004-2005 to date, what amount was spent by the Department on: (a) hospitality extended by the Minister; and (b) supporting ministerial travel overseas by way of: (i) accompanying officers, (ii) briefing, and (iii) hospitality and other support by way of itinerary preparation and travel bookings.
- (2) For each of the next three financial years, what is the projected amount to be spent by the Department on: (a) hospitality directed and/or hosted by the Minister; and (b) the projected amount to be spent by the Department on international ministerial travel.

555 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—With reference to the Minister's media release (VA009 dated 11 February 2005) headlined: 'Minister meets Hunter Veterans':

- (1) Would the Minister advise: (a) when planning for the visit commenced and was finalised; (b) whether the visit was initiated by the Department or the Minister's office; (c) what was the cost of the visit to the Commonwealth; (d) which federal Members of Parliament were advised of the visit; and (e) on what date and in what manner they were made aware of the visit.
- (2) Which federal Members of Parliament were invited to attend the visit with the Minister.
- (3) Who accompanied the Minister and in what capacity.
- (4) With reference to the Minister's media release (VA005 dated 21 January 2005) headlined: 'Minister visits veterans at aged care facility in Townsville', what are the answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 above.
- (5) With reference to the Minister's media release (VA004 dated 20 January 2005) headlined: 'Minister meets Toowoomba veterans', what are the answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 above.
- (6) With reference to the Minister's media release (VA003 dated 19 January 2005) headlined: 'Minister meets Lismore veterans', what are the answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 above.
- (7) With reference to the Minister's media release (VA001 dated 17 January 2005) headlined: 'Minister meets Southern Fleurieu Peninsula veterans', what are the answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 above.

Notice given 3 May 2005

583 **Senator George Campbell:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the Commonwealth Fleet Management Agreement:

- (1) Can a break-down be provided of all vehicles owned or leased by the Commonwealth Government under the Fleet Management Agreement, including: (a) the total number of vehicles; (b) vehicle type (e.g. sedan, wagon etc); and (c) user (e.g. department, authority etc).
- (2) Can a copy be provided of the Fleet Management Agreement.

- (3) Under the Fleet Management Agreement, does the Commonwealth have any say over the type of vehicles that are used.
- (4) Can full details be provided of any vehicles owned or leased by the Commonwealth which are not covered by the Fleet Management Agreement.

584 **Senator George Campbell:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—With reference to the road works at Anzac Cove and other work/maintenance at the Gallipoli Peninsula:

- (1) Has the Government contributed any funding for the upkeep, maintenance or construction work at Gallipoli since 2001; if so, can details be provided of the amounts and the purpose of the expenditure.
- (2) Did the Government offer to contribute to the cost of the road works at Anzac Cove, undertaken after 2 August 2004, the date on which the former Minister for Veterans' Affairs wrote to the Turkish Government.
- (3) Did the Government contribute to the cost of the road works at Anzac Cove, undertaken after 2 August 2004, the date on which the former Minister for Veterans' Affairs wrote to the Turkish Government; if so: (a) how much was spent and what was it spent on; and (b) where was the funding drawn from and who approved its expenditure.

Notice given 4 May 2005

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 585-615)—With reference to the department and/or its agencies:

- (1) For each financial year from 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date: (a) how many consultants were engaged by the department and/or its agencies to conduct surveys of community attitudes to departmental programs and what was the total cost; and (b) for each consultancy: (i) what was the cost, (ii) who was the consultant, and (iii) was this consultant selected by tender; if so, was the tender select or open; if not, why not.
- (2) Were any of the surveys released publicly; if so, in each case, when was the material released; if not, in each case, what was the basis for not releasing the material publicly.

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Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 647-677)—For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, can the following information be provided for the department and/or its agencies:

- (1) What were the base and top level salaries of Australian Public Service (APS) level 1 to 6 officers and equivalent staff employed.
- (2) What were the base and top level salaries of APS Executive level and Senior Executive Service officers and equivalent staff employed.
- (3) Are APS officers eligible for performance or other bonuses; if so: (a) to what levels are these bonuses applied; (b) are these applied on an annual basis; (c) what conditions are placed on the qualification for these bonuses; and (d) how many bonuses were paid at each level, and what was their dollar value for the periods specified above.
- (4) (a) How many senior officers have been supplied with motor vehicles; and (b) what has been the cost to date.
- (5) (a) How many senior officers have been supplied with mobile phones; and (b) what has been the cost to date.
- (6) How many management retreats or training programs have staff attended.
- (7) How many management retreats or training programs have been held off-site.
- (8) In the case of each off-site management retreat or training program: (a) where was the event held; and (b) what was the cost of: (i) accommodation, (ii) food, (iii) alcohol, (iv) transport, and (v) other costs incurred.
- (9) How many official domestic trips have been undertaken by staff and what was the cost of this domestic travel, and in each case: (a) what was the destination; (b) what was the purpose of the travel; and (c) what was the cost of the travel, including a breakdown of: (i) accommodation, (ii) food, (iii) alcohol, (iv) transport, and (v) other costs incurred.

- (10) How many official overseas trips have been undertaken by staff and what was the cost of this travel, and in each case: (a) what was the destination; (b) what was the purpose of the travel; and (c) what was the cost of the travel, including a breakdown of: (i) accommodation, (ii) food, (iii) alcohol, (iv) transport, and (v) other costs incurred.
- (11) (a) What was the total cost of air charters used; and (b) on how many occasions was aircraft chartered, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the respective costs.

648 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

649 Minister representing the Treasurer

650 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

652 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

655 Minister for Finance and Administration

657 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

658 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

667 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

668 Minister representing the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs

669 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

670 Special Minister of State

671 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

674 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads

675 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 678-708)—

- (1) In relation to all overseas travel where expenses were met by the Minister's portfolios, for each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date what was the total cost of travel and related expenses in relation to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; and (c) the Minister's staff.
- (2) In relation to all air charters engaged and paid for by the Minister and/or the Minister's office and/or the department and its agencies, for each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date: (a) on how many occasions did the Minister or his/her office or department and/or agency charter aircraft, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the related respective costs; and (b) what was the total cost.

678 Minister representing the Prime Minister

680 Minister representing the Treasurer

681 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

683 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

694 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

698 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

700 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

706 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

708 Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 710-740)—For each financial year since 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date:

- (1) (a) What overseas travel was undertaken by the Minister; (b) what was the purpose of the Minister's visit; (c) when did the Minister depart Australia; (d) who travelled with the Minister; and (e) when did the Minister return to Australia.
- (2) (a) Who did the Minister meet during the visit; and (b) what were the times and dates of each meeting.
- (3) (a) On how many of these trips was the Minister accompanied by a business delegation; and (b) can details be provided of any delegation accompanying the Minister.
- (4) Who met the cost of travel and other expenses associated with the trip.
- (5) What total travel and associated expenses, if any, were met by the department in relation to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; (c) the Minister's staff; and (d) departmental and/or agency staff.
- (6) What were the costs per expenditure item for: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; and (c) the Minister's staff, including but not necessarily limited to: (i) fares, (ii) allowances, (iii) accommodation, (iv) hospitality, (v) insurance, and (vi) other costs.
- (7) What were the costs per expenditure item for each departmental and/or agency officer, including but not necessarily limited to: (a) fares; (b) allowances; (c) accommodation; (d) hospitality; (e) insurance; and (f) other costs.
- (8) (a) What was the total cost of air charters used by the Minister or his/her office or department; and (b) on how many occasions did the Minister or his/her office or department and/or agency charter aircraft, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the respective costs.

710 Minister representing the Prime Minister

712 Minister representing the Treasurer

718 Minister for Finance and Administration

719 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

723 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

728 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation

730 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

732 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

733 Special Minister of State

738 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 741-771)—For each financial year from 2000-01 to 2002-03 can the following information relating to advertising be provided:

- (1) (a) What advertising campaigns were commenced; and (b) for what programs.

- (2) In relation to each campaign: (a) what was its total cost, including a breakdown of advertising costs for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs with brochures, and (v) research on advertising; and (b) what was the commencement and cessation date for each aspect of the campaign placement.
- (3) For each campaign: (a) on which television stations did the advertising campaign screen; (b) on which radio stations did the advertising campaign feature; and (c) in which newspapers did the advertising campaign feature.
- (4) Which: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, were engaged for the campaign.
- (5) In the event of a mail out, what database was used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (a) What appropriations did the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) in which financial year will these appropriations be made; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (7) Was a request made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (8) Did the Minister for Finance and Administration issue a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (7); if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (9) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

741 Minister representing the Prime Minister

742 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

743 Minister representing the Treasurer

744 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

745 Minister for Defence

746 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

747 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

748 Minister representing the Attorney-General

749 Minister for Finance and Administration

750 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

751 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

752 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

754 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

755 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

756 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

757 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

- 758 Minister for Justice and Customs
- 759 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
- 760 Minister for the Arts and Sport
- 761 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services
- 762 Minister representing the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
- 763 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
- 764 Special Minister of State
- 765 Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education
- 766 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing
- 767 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism
- 768 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
- 770 Minister representing the Minister for Workforce Participation

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 833-863)—With reference to the department and/or its agencies:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, can a list be provided of customer service telephone lines, including: (a) the telephone number of each customer service line; (b) whether the number is toll free and open 24 hours; (c) which output area is responsible for the customer service line; and (d) where this call centre is located.
- (2) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, what was the cost of maintaining the customer service lines.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, can a breakdown be provided of all direct and indirect costs, including: (a) staff costs; (b) infrastructure costs (including maintenance); (c) telephone costs; (d) departmental costs; and (e) any other costs.
- (4) How many calls have been received, by year, in each year of the customer service line's operation.

- 834 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
- 839 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 840 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 846 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
- 850 Minister for Justice and Customs
- 853 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services
- 860 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
- 861 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

864 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Will the Minister provide the eligibility criteria used by the Government to determine media attendance at the 2004 and the 2005 Budget lock-up.
- (2) Will the Minister provide a definition of mainstream media, taking into account the following extract from Mr Peter McGuaran's second reading speech, for the Broadcasting Services (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 on 21 March 2003:

Technological progress and globalisation are changing the structure of the Australian media market and patterns of media consumption—undeniably Australian media

organisations are responding to these changes by investing in new technology enterprises and forming broader strategic partnerships, but the regulation of ownership and control of Australian media has been largely static. This creates ongoing tension between the trend towards convergence in the communications market and a regulatory framework which is based on sector-specific regulation and an assumption that influential sources of news and opinion are limited to the traditional domestic media outlets...The government is committed to the need for ongoing diversity of opinion and information in the Australian media.

- (3) Will the Minister provide a list of media outlets attending the 2005 Budget lock-up.
- (4) Will the Minister provide a list of press gallery members, that is those members with press gallery accreditation, who have been excluded from the 2005 Budget lock-up.
- (5) Will the Minister provide an explanation why some staff members of crikey.com.au gained accreditation to attend the 2004 Budget lock-up, but none have been granted access to the 2005 Budget lock-up.

Notice given 11 May 2005

908 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to in vitro fertilisation (IVF) services and proposals to restrict access:

- (1) Has the Government undertaken any investigation of the factors that have contributed to the increase in government rebates for IVF services over the past 10 years; if so, can a copy be provided of any information or report resulting from investigations.
- (2) What groups, if any, were consulted prior to May 2005 regarding possible restrictions on access to Medicare rebates for IVF procedures.
- (3) What data does the Government have on: (a) the proportion of Australian women accessing IVF services; (b) changes in the proportion over the past 10 years; and (c) the range and average number of IVF cycles undertaken by an infertile woman.
- (4) Can information be provided on the average out-of-pocket costs experienced by women for a single cycle of IVF for the past 10 years.

Notice given 31 May 2005

917 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the National Emergency Communications Work Group (NECWG) gave unanimous support to the development of a national code for broadcasters to ensure that whenever a program is aired that promotes or portrays an emergency number that is not 000, the broadcaster puts a message on the screen warning viewers that 000 is the emergency number in Australia.
- (2) Is the Minister aware the NECWG gave unanimous support to the development of a short flyer to be given to every person who buys a mobile phone explaining the proper use of 000 for mobile phones.

- (3) Has the Minister received correspondence from state or territory ministers in relation to the development of these codes; if so: (a) from which state or territory minister; (b) when did the Minister receive such correspondence; and (c) when did the Minister reply.
- (4) Can a copy of the Minister's replies to the correspondence of state and territory ministers be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Has the Minister and/or the department had meetings with NECWG in relation to these codes; if so: (a) when did the meetings occur; (b) who attended the meetings; (c) what was discussed at the meetings; and (d) can the written records of these meetings be provided; if not, why not.
- (6) What work has the department undertaken to assist in the development and implementation of such codes.

918 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) For each of the past 3 financial years, would the Minister advise the number of instances that persons in Australia have dialled 911 instead of 000 when seeking emergency assistance by telephone.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the National Emergency Communications Work Group (NECWG) gave unanimous support to the development of a national code for broadcasters to ensure that whenever a program is aired that promotes or portrays an emergency number that is not 000, the broadcaster puts a message on the screen warning viewers that 000 is the emergency number in Australia.
- (3) Is the Minister aware the NECWG gave unanimous support to the development of a short flyer to be given to every person who buys a mobile phone explaining the proper use of 000 for mobile phones.
- (4) Has the Minister received correspondence from state or territory ministers in relation to the development of these codes; if so: (a) from which state or territory minister; (b) when did the Minister receive such correspondence; and (c) when did the Minister reply.
- (5) Can a copy of the Minister's replies to the correspondence of state and territory ministers be provided; if not, why not.
- (6) Has the Minister and/or the department had meetings with NECWG in relation to these codes; if so: (a) when did the meetings occur; (b) who attended the meetings; (c) what was discussed at the meetings; and (d) can the written records of these meetings be provided; if not, why not.
- (7) What work has the department undertaken to assist in the development and implementation of such codes.

Notice given 6 June 2005

940 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) On how many occasions have children detained at the temporary Immigration Reception and Processing Centre on Christmas Island been denied the opportunity to participate in a school excursion.
- (2) For each occasion, would the Minister identify: (a) the date of the excursion; (b) the nature of the excursion; (c) the reason permission was denied; and (d) the responsible decision-maker.

Notice given 14 June 2005

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 960-962)—

- (1) For each financial year since 1 July 1997 can information be provided on undertakings given to fund the Australian School of Fine Furniture (ASFF) in Tasmania and the relevant program(s) under which they were given.
- (2) For each financial year since 1 July 1997 can information be provided on actual funds provided to the ASFF and the relevant program(s) under which they were made available.
- (3) When was each undertaking to provide Commonwealth funding to the ASFF announced and who made the announcement.
- (4) For each undertaking by the Minister or the department to make Commonwealth funding available to the ASFF can information be provided on: (a) what due diligence or other examination of the project was carried out to ensure the financial viability of the project and to ensure Commonwealth funds would be effectively used prior to making the undertaking to make funds available to the ASFF; (b) who conducted the due diligence or other examination of the project and how were they selected; (c) when did the due diligence or other examination of the project commence and when was it completed; (d) what was the cost to the Commonwealth of the due diligence or other examination of the project; (e) when was the due diligence or other examination of the project made available to the Minister; and (f) can a copy of the due diligence or other examination of the project be provided; if not, why not.

960 Minister representing the Prime Minister

961 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

962 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

Notice given 23 June 2005

- 977 **Senator Kirk:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Since March 1996, how many unauthorised asylum seekers have arrived in Australia, and of those, how many: (a) are currently in immigration detention centres; (b) have been judged as genuine refugees; (c) have been given permanent visas; (d) are on Temporary Protection Visas; and (e) are awaiting deportation.

Notice given 24 June 2005

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 982-1011)—For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, has the Minister, the department or any agency or statutory authority for which the Minister is responsible, made grants or other payments to business organisations and/or associations, including but not necessarily limited to peak employer groups; if so, can information be provided for each grant or other payment including: (a) the name and address of the recipient organisation; (b) the quantum and purpose of the payment; (c) the name of the program under which the grant or other payment was funded; (d) who approved the grant or other payment; and (e) whether the grant or payment was successfully acquitted; if so, when; if not, can details be provided, including action taken to recover the grant or other payment.

982 Minister representing the Prime Minister

- 988 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 991 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 997 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
- 1000 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 1001 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Notice given 19 July 2005

- 1030 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and the aviation industry:
- (1) How does the Minister account for the fact that the number of general aviation operations, aircraft parts, manufacturers and maintenance organisations has halved since 1996.
 - (2) Does the Minister accept that the decline of 100 000 jobs in the sector is in any way due to: (a) CASA's aggressive application of aviation laws; (b) the increasing cost and complexity of complying with restrictive regulatory and administrative processes; (c) the lack of harmonisation of general aviation legislation with the United States Federation Aviation Association or the European Aviation Safety Authority; (d) the loss of trust and respect once held for CASA by the sector; and (e) the restructure of CASA into Compliance and Regulatory Services Divisions.
 - (3) Does the Minister agree that correcting deficiencies in maintenance regulations in recent years has not removed unnecessary and ambiguous requirements and practices.
 - (4) Will the Government consider the proposal by Aviation Maintenance Repair Overhaul Business Association to: (a) close down the 'Safety Forum' and other civil aviation committees recently formed and replace them with an Aviation Review Board to oversee proposed legislation, procedures and practices proposed by CASA for the sector; (b) staff the Board with leaders from all sectors of the industry including business associations; (c) provide funding for the Board for Industry/Government working groups on regulatory requirements, industry procedures and practices; (d) make the Board responsible for allocating the aviation safety promotion budget; and (e) provide the Board with a permanent secretariat from within the Department of Transport and Regional Services.
 - (5) If not, what steps does the Minister propose to take to restore the viability of general aviation in Australia.
- 1031 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What are the most recent figures available for expenditure on the Medicare Safety Net: (a) in total; and (b) by electorate.
 - (2) How many people have registered for the Medicare Safety Net: (a) in total; and (b) by electorate.
 - (3) How many people have reached the Medicare Safety Net threshold: (a) in total; and (b) by electorate.
 - (4) Can information be provided on: (a) when, by electorate, the next Medicare Safety Net data will be publicly available; (b) how frequently Medicare Safety Net data will be publicly available; and (c) how frequently, by electorate, Medicare Safety Net data will be publicly available.

1032 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What data does the Australian Bureau of Statistics have on national trends in suicide, for the past 10 years.
- (2) What changes were made in the late 1990s to the coding and classification of deaths in Australia and how have these changes affected the collection of suicide data.
- (3) Given that national levels of, and trends in, suicide are based on the way that deaths are coded, are reported reductions in suicide rates in Australia simply a result of changing the way that the death data is coded and classified.

Notice given 21 July 2005

1037 **Senator Forshaw:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the current and proposed advertising campaign on the Government's proposed changes to workplace laws:

- (1) For the 2005-06 and 2006-07 financial years, what is the total budget for the campaign.
- (2) For each of the financial years in (1), can information be provided on the budgeted advertising costs, including: (a) television; (b) radio; (c) newspapers; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (3) Which creative agencies have been used in the campaign or are contracted for future involvement.
- (4) Which research agencies have been used in the campaign or are contracted for future involvement.
- (5) How were the creative agencies and research agencies selected for the campaign.
- (6) During the campaign to date, what research reports have been supplied to the department by the creative agencies and research agencies.
- (7) To date, what payments have been made to each agency used in the campaign.
- (8) If there is to be a mail out to taxpayers as part of this campaign: (a) to how many households and businesses will information be sent; and (b) what databases will be used to select the addresses.
- (9) (a) What appropriations have the department been using to pay for the advertising campaign; and (b) from what appropriations will future expenditures be drawn.

Notice given 4 August 2005

1054 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to evidence on the Tomson case given to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee during additional estimates on 14 February 2005, (*Hansard* reference L&C p.182):

- (1) Has compensation been finalised; if so, what is the offer and when will it be submitted to Mr Tomson; if not, can details be provided on the outstanding matters under consideration that are delaying the finalisation of this matter.
- (2) For the outstanding matters identified in paragraph (1), can information be provided on how these matters will be progressed.

Notice given 9 August 2005

1067 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to general aviation matters in North Queensland:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of an e-mail sent to the office of the Minister for Transport and Regional Services on 25 May 2005 on behalf of a former Trans Air pilot, known as Pilot B, who raised serious questions about aspects of Trans Air Papua New Guinea's safety and operational practices with the Papua New Guinea (PNG) authorities in 2002.
- (2) Did that e-mail: (a) contain advice that Pilot B had reiterated his warnings about Trans Air directly to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) by telephone in October 2004; and (b) strongly criticise the lack of action by CASA and the ATSB in investigating those allegations against Trans Air, made in October 2004.
- (3) Did ATSB state to Pilot B, as claimed in the e-mail, that it could not act on his information unless it was put in writing.
- (4) Is it the case that the ATSB has repeatedly stated that in-confidence telephone reports remain an acceptable means of whistle-blowing and that all that is required is a name and contact details.
- (5) Did the e-mail state that: (a) CASA had failed 'to deal with systematic breaches of the regulations' by Trans Air 'over a long period of time'; and (b) Pilot B had made ATSB aware by telephone in October 2004 of Trans Air's 'attitude towards rules and regulations', and the likelihood 'of dire consequences unless the relevant authorities acted'.
- (6) Is it the case that, at no stage, did Pilot B claim knowledge of the events immediately surrounding the Lockhart River accident.
- (7) Is it correct that Pilot B claimed knowledge of a prior history of safety and operational failings by Trans Air and inaction by the authorities when they were, or should have been, aware of those failings.
- (8) Did Pilot B telephone Mr John Robbins, the ATSB's Confidential Aviation Incident Reporting System manager, at 11am on 20 October 2004 to discuss aspects of Trans Air's safety and operational conduct in PNG.
- (9) (a) Did Mr Robbins refer Pilot B to CASA's legal counsel, Mr Jonathon Aleck; and (b) is it the case that Mr Aleck and the pilot had a long discussion about this matter.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm that during this conversation Pilot B repeated his allegations against Trans Air.
- (11) Is it correct that, despite both CASA and ATSB knowing of these serious allegations against Trans Air 7 months prior to the Lockhart River tragedy, no action was taken by either organisation by way of investigation of Trans Air.
- (12) Did Mr Alan Stray, ATSB Deputy Director of Aviation Safety Investigations, telephone another former Trans Air pilot, Pilot A, on the morning of 20 May 2005 to ask Pilot A to go on the record with similar allegations about Trans Air.
- (13) Why is it necessary for the allegations by these two pilots specifically to be 'on the record' when making a call to CASA or the ATSB hotline, giving personal particulars and providing details of allegations, is enough to trigger an investigation.

- (14) Did ATSB legal counsel, Mr Pat Hornby, also speak to Pilot A and tell him that he had the power to call him for a formal interview.
- (15) Does Mr Hornby have this power and did he use it; if not, why not.
- (16) Did the ATSB's Lockhart River investigator, Mr William Fry, receive an e-mail from Pilot A about noon on 20 May 2005 repeating his willingness to take part in an off-the-record interview at a venue suitable to both parties and subject to the inclusion of a witness of Pilot A's choosing.

1068 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to general aviation matters in North Queensland:

- (1) Is it correct that at least one set of allegations against Trans Air, made verbally by a third pilot known as Pilot C, was investigated a matter of months before the Lockhart River crash and that 'nothing was found'.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) investigated a series of allegations made by Pilot C about the operating practices of Trans Air such as 'inappropriate procedures, not appropriate training and checking arrangements for pilots and inexperience of co-pilots'.
- (3) Is it correct that Pilot C contacted CASA three times before the Lockhart River crash with serious allegations against Trans Air and its Big Sky operations in New South Wales.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that interview notes taken by CASA in September 2004 state that the pilot 'expressed his concerns clearly and sincerely. There is no reason to doubt the veracity of his information'.
- (5) Can the Minister confirm that the interview notes contained the following entries or issues:
 - (a) 'A pilot told to fudge the figures on a load sheet of an overloaded aircraft';
 - (b) 'the interviewed pilot was faced with attempted coercion when told of other pilots' agreement to fly an aircraft with unserviceable landing light/s when the Minimum Equipment List (MEL) does not permit operation of the aircraft at night without landing lights and told to fly the aircraft';
 - (c) 'poor training of first officers illustrated by them not knowing how to complete an aircraft walk-around';
 - (d) 'a Maintenance Controller does not encourage the writing up of aircraft defects';
 - (e) 'a 'cost cutting culture' articulated by describing an event that had an aircraft descending below steps of an instrument approach in order to save time by not flying overhead the airfield';
 - (f) 'as Captain he was required to take control of the aircraft from first officers on a number of aircraft landing occasions. This event description was to re-enforce a statement that he thought the training of first officers was very poor';
 - (g) 'he alluded to the possibility of false experience being recorded';
 - (h) 'when joining the company he had no access to regulatory documentation because the computer was down';
 - (i) 'no CAO 20.11 training given';

- (j) 'no dangerous goods training given';
- (k) 'no instrument rating check undertaken/or check of instrument proficiency before revenue operations';
- (l) 'no examination of aircraft knowledge prior to being released to line operations';
- (m) 'described his check and being released for line operations as being minimal. He expressed he had expected more checking';
- (n) 'during a CASA line check (audit), no check of aircraft documentation or licences by the CASA Freedom of Information'; and
- (o) 'loading of passengers when the 'offside' engine is still running (Metro Operation)'.
 - (6) Did Pilot C also state that Trans Air's Big Sky Express operation had a cost-saving culture that extended to short-cutting.
 - (7) Will the Minister provide full details of the investigation conducted as a result of Pilot C's allegations.
 - (8) Is it the case that despite finding no evidence to sustain the allegations, CASA increased its surveillance of Trans Air, and then carried out a "fairly fulsome audit" of the airline earlier in 2005.
 - (9) Can the Minister give precise details of the 'fairly fulsome audit', and state whether it covered the same ground as the earlier investigation.
 - (10) Has Trans Air conducted ground school for the pilots it has trained on its larger aircraft such as the Fairchild Metroliner and Cessna Citation types over the past 2 years; if so, who conducted the ground school, and how extensive was it.
 - (11) Can a copy be provided of the written examinations completed by these pilots and required to be kept on file by the airline.
 - (12) In relation to the allegations made to CASA and the ATSB about Trans Air's performance in Papua New Guinea, is it correct that CASA does not monitor, or is not required to monitor, Australian-registered aircraft and Australian-licensed pilots when they are operating overseas.
 - (13) Is it correct that CASA is not required to be informed by its overseas counterparts in relation to Australian-registered aircraft and Australian-licensed pilots operating overseas when a regulatory breach is found to have occurred overseas, or when such a pilot is disciplined by his employer.

1069 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to general aviation matters in North Queensland:

- (1) Is the Minister satisfied with the quality and level of monitoring and surveillance of the aviation industry in North Queensland, in particular with regard to safety, and the performance of those charged with air transport safety.
- (2) Can the Minister detail any changes in personnel, or positions, in the North Queensland CASA office in the 3 months ending 9 August 2005.
- (3) What action, if any, has the department, or any statutory authorities for which the Minister is responsible, taken to reduce North Queensland's tragic record of 52 aviation fatalities in the past 5 years.

- (4) Has the Minister, or his predecessor, requested any report, analysis, study or other information that might help to explain North Queensland's aircraft fatality record; if so, can details be provided.

1074 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to general aviation matters in North Queensland:

- (1) Is the department investigating whether there was an incident in mid-March 2005 in which an aircraft flying the Cape York Mail Run landed at a closed and disused strip at Holroyd Station north of Cairns.
- (2) (a) Was that incident reported; and (b) was it required to be reported to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau or any other transport authority.
- (3) Is the department investigating: (a) whether the aircraft became bogged; and (b) if help from the nearby Strathmay Station had to be sought to lighten its load for take-off; if so, was that also reported, and was it required to be reported.
- (4) Is the department investigating whether a second aircraft from the same company flew in to render assistance and became bogged, and was that also reported or required to be reported.
- (5) What are the penalties for failing to report incidents of this nature.

Notice given 16 August 2005

1085 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that international students are experiencing delays of up to 3 months between their payment to the universities of private health insurance premiums (as a condition of their visa) and receiving private health coverage.
- (2) Will the Minister investigate the situation and urge universities to arrange cover as soon as possible after payment of the premium is received.

1088 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flights requisitioned by the Hon. I Macfarlane on: (i) 4 July 2004 from Canberra to Oakey and Oakey to Canberra, (ii) 11 July 2004 from Canberra to Oakey, and (iii) 12 July 2004 from Oakey to Canberra; (b) did the VIP CL604 aircraft remain at Oakey overnight on 11 July 2004; and (c) what was the cost of these flights.
- (2) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flight requisitioned by the Hon. Dr D Kemp which commenced at Canberra 5 July 2004 and terminated at Canberra 8 July 2004; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight from Melbourne to Canberra for what appears to be a lone staff member.
- (3) (a) What was the purpose of a VIP flight requisitioned by the Hon. J Hockey on 6 July 2004 from Canberra to Kununurra; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight for what appear to be two staff members.

- (4) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flight requisitioned by the Hon. J Lloyd on 25 July 2004 from Norfolk Island to Darwin to Bali; (b) why did the VIP CL604 aircraft remain in Bali for 6 days; (c) what was the cost of the flight, including travel allowance paid to flight and cabin crew for this period; and (d) why did the aircraft return to Canberra on 31 July 2004 without passengers.
- (5) (a) What was the purpose of a VIP flight requisitioned by Senator Abetz on 31 July 2004 from Canberra to Hobart to Williamstown to Hobart to Canberra; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP 737 flight and a commercial flight for the two people listed on the manifest.
- (6) (a) What was the purpose of a VIP flight requisitioned by Senator Vanstone on 5 August 2004 from Canberra to Melbourne; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight for the senator and Mr Vanstone and one other person listed on the manifest.
- (7) (a) What was the purpose of a VIP flight requisitioned by the Hon. M Vaile on 13 August 2004 from Canberra to Sydney to Canberra; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight for three persons from Sydney to Canberra as listed on the manifest.
- (8) (a) What was the purpose of a VIP flight requisitioned by Senator Vanstone on 25 August 2004 from Canberra to Adelaide to Sydney to Canberra; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight for the senator and one other person from Adelaide to Sydney.
- (9) (a) What was the purpose of a VIP flight requisitioned by Senator Vanstone on 27 October 2004 from Canberra to Adelaide to Canberra; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight for the senator and one other person from Canberra to Adelaide.
- (10) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flight requisitioned by Senator Hill on 30 October 2004 from Canberra to Melbourne to Alice Springs to Adelaide to Canberra; (b) as the Minister joined the flight on the Melbourne to Alice Springs leg and was joined by his wife on the Alice Springs to Adelaide leg, was the purpose to take Mrs Hill home; (c) how was the Adelaide to Alice Springs travel for Mrs Hill funded; and (d) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight for the senator and Mrs Hill from Alice Springs to Adelaide.
- (11) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flight requisitioned by Senator Vanstone on 17 November 2004 from Canberra to Sydney to Canberra; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight for the senator and one other person for this flight.
- (12) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flight requisitioned by the Hon. I Macfarlane on 3 December 2004 from Canberra to Oakey; (b) what was the cost of that flight; and (c) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and the other travel options.
- (13) (a) Why was it necessary for a VIP flight to be dispatched from Canberra to Adelaide at the request of Senator Minchin on 5 December 2004 for travel from Adelaide to Canberra with four other people; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight.

- (14) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flight requisitioned by the Hon. M Vaile on 9 December 2004 from Canberra to Coolangatta; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight.
- (15) (a) What was the purpose of the VIP flight requisitioned by the Hon. A Downer on 14 December 2004 from Canberra to Adelaide to Sydney with one passenger on the Canberra to Adelaide leg and the Minister and his wife travelling from Adelaide to Sydney; and (b) what was the cost differential between the VIP CL604 flight and a commercial flight.

Notice given 18 August 2005

1094 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) For each of the last 3 years of operation of the Military Compensation and Rehabilitation Scheme: (a) how many new claims were made; (b) how many claims for increase were made; and (c) what was the average lump sum payment made in each year.
- (2) With reference to (1) above, what was the acceptance rate of all claims in each year.
- (3) For each of the years in question: (a) how many internal reviews were sought; (b) how many decisions were amended as a result; (c) how many rejected claims were appealed to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT); and (d) how many AAT applications were: (i) upheld, (ii) rejected, (iii) withdrawn by applicant, and (iv) settled before hearing.
- (4) For each of the years in question: (a) in how many: (i) primary decisions, (ii) internal reviews, and (iii) applications to the AAT, was external legal advice sought; (b) what was the total cost in each year, and (c) how much was paid to each external provider in each year.
- (5) In relation to (1) above, can the Minister provide answers in relation to the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Scheme which commenced 1 July 2004.

1097 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many claims for redress and compensation (excluding disability compensation) from Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel past and present are currently: (a) in active litigation before the: (i) courts, and (ii) tribunals, both state and federal; (b) in preparation for possible litigation; and (c) under consideration short of litigation and subject to negotiation and discussion between the parties.
- (2) With reference to (1) above for the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date: (a) how many cases before those courts and tribunals were concluded; (b) how many were decided in favour of the applicant; (c) how many were decided in favour of the Commonwealth; (d) how many applications were withdrawn; (e) how many were settled prior to conclusion of hearing; (f) what was the sum of all payments made in settlement and the average payment; (g) from what budget allocation were payments made; (h) in how many cases was outside legal advice and representation retained; (i) what was the total cost of external legal advice and representation, and the average cost per case; (j) what total payments were made to each individual law firm; (k) in how many cases was

independent mediation attempted; and (1) how many confidentiality clauses were signed with respect to all settlements.

- (3) With reference to (2) above, in how many cases did legally qualified advocates employed by the department: (a) appear without external assistance; and (b) assist outside representatives.
- (4) (a) On how many occasions in 2004 was legal advice provided to ADF personnel seeking redress of grievances by: (i) Legal Division staff, (ii) reservist lawyers, and (iii) external commercial law firms; and (b) at what average and total cost.
- (5) How many class actions, involving how many parties in each case, and in relation to which matters, are currently underway in any form against the Commonwealth, brought by ADF personnel, past and present, including dependants.
- (6) (a) How many staff are currently employed within the Legal Division; and (b) what proportion have legal qualifications.
- (7) (a) How many claims for defective administration have been made by: (i) ADF personnel past and present, (ii) dependants, and (iii) civilian personnel, against the department in each of the past 3 years; (b) how many payments were made and of what total and average value; and (c) from what budget item were these payments made.
- (8) (a) How many applications have been made by female ADF personnel in each of the past 3 years to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission; (b) in how many of these cases was external legal representation retained; (c) in how many cases was settlement reached; and (d) in how many cases was compensation paid, and what was the average amount.

1098 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the relaunched National Security advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2004-05 and 2005-06: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (i) television (TV) placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) printing and mail outs, and (v) research.
- (2) When did the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) Over what period will the TV advertisements run.
- (4) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, have been engaged in the campaign.
- (5) Is a mail out planned; if so: (a) to whom will the mail out be targeted; and (b) what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2004-05 or 2005-06 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.

- (7) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (8) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in (7) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (9) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

1099 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues—With reference to the relaunched Domestic Violence 'Australia says No' advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2004-05 and 2005-06: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (i) television (TV) placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) printing and mail outs, and (v) research.
- (2) When did the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, have been engaged in the campaign.
- (4) Is a mail out planned; if so: (a) to whom will the mail out be targeted; and (b) what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2004-05 or 2005-06 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

1100 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the Super Choice advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2004-05 and 2005-06: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (i) television (TV) placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) printing and mail outs, and (v) research.
- (2) When did the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.

- (3) Over what period will the TV advertisements run.
- (4) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, have been engaged in the campaign.
- (5) Is a mail out planned; if so: (a) to whom will the mail out be targeted; and (b) what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) As of 17 August 2005, how many phone calls had the Super Choice Infoline (13 28 64) received.
- (7) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2004-05 or 2005-06 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (8) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (9) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (8) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (10) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

1101 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the relaunched Superannuation Co-Contribution advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2004-05 and 2005-06: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (i) television (TV) placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) printing and mail outs, and (v) research.
- (2) When did the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) Over what period will the TV advertisements run.
- (4) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, have been engaged in the campaign.
- (5) Is a mail out planned; if so: (a) to whom will the mail out be targeted; and (b) what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2004-05 or 2005-06 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.

- (7) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (8) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in (7) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (9) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

1102 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Industrial Relations advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2004-05 and 2005-06: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (i) television (TV) placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) printing and mail outs, and (v) research.
- (2) When did the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) Over what period will the TV advertisements run.
- (4) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, have been engaged in the campaign.
- (5) Is a mail out planned; if so: (a) to whom will the mail out be targeted; and (b) what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2004-05 or 2005-06 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (7) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (8) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in (7) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (9) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Notice given 29 August 2005

1112 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the reduction of the Government vehicle fleet by 1 500 vehicles since 2001:

- (1) How was this reduction achieved.

- (2) Are efforts being made to achieve further reductions; if so, what are these efforts.

Notice given 30 August 2005

1127 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—With reference to an article in the *Newcastle Herald* of 2 August 2005 headlined, 'Link road in doubt over cost' relating to the New England Highway - F3 to Branxton project:

- (1) Has this or a similar project always been considered by the Commonwealth to be an AusLink project; if not: (a) when was the Commonwealth first approached for funding for this or a similar project; (b) at that time: (i) what was the total cost of the project, and (ii) when was the project due to commence and when was it due to be completed; (c) when and in what quantum was Commonwealth funding first approved for this or a similar project.
- (2) (a) When was funding for this project approved under AusLink; (b) at that time: (i) what was the total cost of the project, (ii) when was the project due to commence and when was it due to be completed, and (iii) what was the quantum of Commonwealth funding approved for each financial year over the life of the project.
- (3) (a) What is the current estimated total cost of this project; (b) when and in what manner was the Minister made aware of the change in the total project cost; (c) when is construction of the project now expected to commence and when is it expected to be completed; and (d) what is the quantum of Commonwealth funding approved for each financial year over the life of the project.

Notice given 1 September 2005

1130 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) To date, how many compensation payments have been made to nuclear test veterans and what were the amounts paid.
- (2) How many of these veterans were on the nominal roll.
- (3) Why is it necessary for veterans to sign secrecy agreements about the amounts of compensation.
- (4) Is there a restricted list of lawyers who are eligible to handle these claims for compensation; if so, which lawyers are eligible.
- (5) How much has been paid to the lawyers of successful claimants.
- (6) How much has been paid for medical opinions in relation to these cases.
- (7) What progress has been made on the Nuclear Participants Health Study.
- (8) (a) When was the last Consultative Forum meeting conducted and can copies of the minutes be provided; and (b) when is the next Consultative Forum meeting to be held.
- (9) Has the Consultative Forum considered the documents submitted by Major Alan Batchelor (Retired), namely 'Observations on Dosimetry Panel Considerations', the Imperial War Museum DVD 'Films on Hurricane, Totem and Buffalo' and 'Material prepared by Mr Johnstone for an aborted review by Professor Robotham'.
- (10) What progress has been made by the Dosimetry Panel.

Notice given 5 September 2005

- 1133 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How many and which Australian airports are served by control towers where at any time under standard operating procedures only one full performance controller may be rostered.
 - (2) For each such airport can the Minister advise: (a) the location of the control tower and the airports it controls; (b) the hours of each day that only one full performance controller is rostered at each control tower; and (c) the procedures in place in the event that the full performance controller becomes incapacitated due to, for example, illness or is otherwise unable to attend work as rostered.
- 1134 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the article in *The Canberra Times* of 1 September 2005 entitled, 'Plane left in air as traffic controller sleeps in':
- (1) For each of the past 5 financial years, on how many occasions have domestic regular passenger transport flight landings been delayed at Australian airports due to the inability of Airservices Australia to adequately staff control towers.
 - (2) For each instance can the following details be provided: (a) the control tower affected; (b) the circumstance in which Airservices Australia was unable to adequately staff the affected control tower; (c) the flight number of the affected flight; (d) its departure point; (e) the number of passengers and crew on board; (f) the scheduled landing time; (g) the actual landing time; (h) the scheduled airport of arrival; (i) the actual airport of arrival; (j) whether the affected airline claimed some form of compensation from Airservices Australia; (k) the value of compensation sought; (l) the value of compensation made; and (m) the date on which compensation was made.
- 1135 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the article in *The Canberra Times* of 1 September 2005 entitled, 'Plane left in air as traffic controller sleeps in': (a) when did the Minister become aware of this issue; (b) who advised the Minister; and (c) in what manner was the Minister advised.
- 1136 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the article in *The Canberra Times* of 1 September 2005 entitled, 'Plane left in air as traffic controller sleeps in':
- (1) What financial or other compensatory recourse exists for Qantas against Airservices Australia in this matter.
 - (2) What is the maximum value of potential compensation Airservices Australia may have to pay Qantas in this matter.

Notice given 6 September 2005

- 1139 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the department has not paid at least four bridging visa recipients \$100 per week as promised; if so, why have the payments not been made.

- (2) Can the Minister confirm that a mother and her son, who were released from Baxter Detention Centre on a bridging visa E one month ago, have not received Medicare or Centrelink benefits.
- (3) Why have the remaining two Sri Lankan detainees in Baxter Detention Centre, who were invited to apply for the Removal Pending Bridging Visa, not been released despite signing more than 2 months ago on 28 June 2005, given the fact that the first Sri Lankans were released on 14 July 2005.

1144 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to biofuels: Will the Government consider amending the Fuel Standard (Petrol) Determination 2001, which bans the sale of ethanol blends of more than 10 per cent, in light of the availability of vehicles designed to run on 85 per cent ethanol and the many flexible fuel vehicles now on the market which are designed to run on much higher levels of ethanol than is currently permitted in Australia; if not, why not.

1148 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can the Minister clarify a recent statement that the Government will ensure services to customers in areas of ‘market failure’ after full privatisation of Telstra.
- (2) Are ‘areas of market failure’ determined by the Government to be in: (a) rural; (b) remote; or (c) metropolitan, areas.
- (3) What is the Government’s definition of ‘market failure’.
- (4) To what extent and how does the Government consider that the privatisation of the Telstra environment will facilitate competition in areas of ‘market failure’.
- (5) Has the Government accepted that areas of ‘market failure’, however defined, are never likely to attract competition.
- (6) Does the Government agree that the commitment to ensure services to customers in areas of ‘market failure’ provides a perverse incentive for Telstra to: (a) withhold or diminish services in these areas; and (b) impede efforts by competitors to set up service provision in these areas.
- (7) What is the extent of ‘market failure’ that has been caused by Telstra’s prevention of other businesses from setting up services.
- (8) How will the Government deal with the well-documented cases of Telstra pushing small competitors out of business when they try to establish competing businesses, particularly in regional areas in, for example, Crookwell, Bungendore and Albury-Wodonga.
- (9) How will the Government deal with excessive regulatory gaming by Telstra, whereby it effectively delays or prevents access by competitors to declared services.
- (10) What is the Government’s estimation of the effect of the proposed additional regulation on: (a) Telstra’s annual profits; and (b) Telstra’s share price.
- (11) Does the Government have a conflict of interest in protecting the shareholders from the cost of additional regulation and ensuring consumers receive the benefits of modern telecommunications infrastructure and services; if so, to what extent.

- (12) How will the Government reconcile the mutually exclusive objective of providing for effective regulation of telecommunications and maximising Telstra's share price.
- (13) How will the Government ensure that the operational separation model for Telstra creates an incentive for Telstra to treat its retail arm and its competitors equitably.
- (14) How will the Government ensure that Telstra does not operate its retail arm at a loss by charging high wholesale prices to itself and competitors.
- (15) Will the Government give the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) divestiture powers in case operational separation fails.
- (16) What were the reasons for structural separation of Telstra not being considered in the package.
- (17) Does the Government agree that the fact that Telstra is vertically integrated is the single most important factor in Australia being ranked 21st in broadband penetration in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Communications Outlook, 2005.
- (18) How does Australia compare with other OECD countries in terms of the rate of penetration of broadband, as opposed to the current rate of uptake.
- (19) Does the Government acknowledge that Australia's rate of uptake is relatively high because it starts from a very low base compared with other OECD countries.
- (20) How does the Government's definition of 'broadband' differ from other countries in the OECD.
- (21) What will the Government do about the obvious weakness of the anti-competitive conduct regime in the Trade Practices Act as demonstrated by the ACCCs experience with the Telstra broadband pricing competition notice.
- (22) What will the Government do to make it easier for Telstra's competitors to get access to reasonably-priced backhaul.
- (23) How will the Government ensure that people in regional areas where there is no competition receive better broadband services as standards improve in metropolitan areas.
- (24) What safeguards will the Government put in place to ensure that money put aside for regional areas will: (a) not simply fall back into Telstra's hands so as to cement its monopoly in regional areas; and (b) be applied equitably and not directed to Coalition or marginal electorates.

Notice given 7 September 2005

1151 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the 'Quality in Australian Health Care Study' published by Wilson et al in 1995 in the *Medical Journal of Australia* which estimated that 470 000 admissions to hospitals occur annually in Australia because of medical mistakes.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this study also estimated that these admissions were associated with 18 000 deaths and 50 000 patients being permanently disabled to a greater or lesser extent.

- (3) (a) What data is available on the number and/or proportion of patients in Australia that suffer from serious adverse effects or die from medical mistakes each year; and (b) how does this compare with other comparable countries.
- (4) Has the Minister raised this matter with state and territory health ministers; if not, will the Minister do so.
- (5) What other action is the Government taking to reduce the number of adverse events associated with medical interventions.

1152 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Can details be provided of the project awarded to Hillsong Emerge Ltd for the Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project for the amount of \$414 479 under the Community Partnership Stream.
- (2) Will religious practice be a feature of this project.
- (3) What 'community enhancement' will be conducted as crime prevention strategies.
- (4) What role, if any, did the Member for Greenway (Mrs Markus) have in the project and decisions about its funding.
- (5) Is it the case that Mrs Markus was previously employed by Hillsong Emerge Ltd.
- (6) What, if any, other projects have been awarded to Hillsong Emerge Ltd under the Community Partnership Stream.

Notice given 8 September 2005

1164 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—With reference to the editorial and article in the *New Scientist* dated 27 August 2005, referring to post-traumatic stress disorder:

- (1) (a) Has the Government taken any action to offset the deadly impact on returned service men and women; and (b) in particular, what compensation is offered to those who have suffered cancer, cardiovascular disease, or other illness, as a result of exposure to combat, including in Vietnam and Iraq.
- (2) (a) What arrangements are in place to measure and minimise the impact on Australians now serving overseas; and (b) do these include pre- and post-service assessment and counselling.

Notice given 9 September 2005

1171 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—For the years 1996 to 2005, can figures be provided, disaggregated by: (a) state and territory; (b) tertiary education institution; and (c) by federal electorate, for the number and the proportion of those who, having completed year 12, went on to: (i) higher education; and (ii) technical and further education or other vocational education and training programs, in their first year out of school.

Notice given 12 September 2005

1172 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 2018 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 February 2005, p. 19747), indicating that the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) no longer undertakes research in the area of diagnostic ultrasound, and that the National Measurement Laboratory was deferring ‘further investigation of the needs of this field pending the establishment of the new National Measurement Institute in July 2004’:

- (1) Has this institute been established; if not, why not; if so, what work is being done in the area of ultrasound measurement by this institute.
- (2) What, if any, safety standards or any other regulatory regime have been developed to monitor the application of ultrasound in obstetrics in Australia.
- (3) Given that work done by the CSIRO in collaboration with centres in Australia and overseas found that, tissue heating to 5 degrees can easily be produced near foetal bone, and such increases can, after only 5 minutes, cause severe brain abnormalities in the developing foetus, embryonic growth is stopped and heat shock (stress) proteins are produced in laboratory exposures to pulsed Doppler ultrasound, and the use of echo-contrast agents can amplify biological effects and cause bleeding at power levels of orders that are orders of magnitude less than that required in the absence of contrast agents, does the Minister consider that the ultrasound regulatory regime is adequate.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that in 2004, Professor Nagel from the University of Stuttgart said, ‘... it has not been verified whether the current regulations for the safe use of ultrasound equipment are valid at these frequencies. The biological effects of low frequency ultrasound have only recently been explored. According to our current knowledge they represent serious health hazards ... possible negative effects of high-intensity ultrasound are hearing loss, impairment of the vestibular system, damage to peripheral sensory receptors, destruction of cells and fragmentation of DNA, and uncontrolled sonoporation’.
- (5) Are there businesses in Australia that provide non-medical ultrasound procedures without a doctor’s referral; if so: (a) are they regulated; and (b) what qualifications are required of these practitioners.
- (6) Does the Minister consider that the Australian medical profession should adopt the advice provided by the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine that it, ‘strongly discourage the non-medical use of ultrasound for psychosocial or entertainment purposes. The use of either 2D or 3D ultrasound to only view the foetus, obtain a picture of the foetus, or determine the gender without a medical intervention is inappropriate and contrary to responsible medical practice’; if not, why not.
- (7) Given that the American Food and Drug Administration has banned the non-medical use of ultrasound, will the Government also consider such a ban.

- (8) Given the epidemiological and laboratory evidence from around the world that indicates ultrasound treatment can result in learning difficulties, a significant rise in left-handedness in boys, auditory problems, autism, growth retardation, dyslexia and delayed speech development, will the medical profession in Australia be advised to warn women of the possible negative bio-effects before ultrasound treatment.

Notice given 13 September 2005

1176 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—With reference to the answer to question no. HS41 provided to the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee during additional estimates hearings on 15 February 2005:

- (1) (a) Can Centrelink explain how individuals were targeted for a review of real estate property values; and (b) what criteria did Centrelink use to determine who should be reviewed.
- (2) Can Centrelink explain why, between the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04, the number of reviews of individuals in receipt of a number of allowances and payments declined significantly (e.g. the number of reviews of Newstart Allowance recipients dropped from 731 to 192 and the number of reviews of Disability Support Pension recipients dropped from 622 to 142).
- (3) Can Centrelink explain why, between the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04, the number of reviews of individuals in receipt of the age pension increased from 14 390 to 19 169.
- (4) Can Centrelink confirm that it has no available information on the state or territory of residence of the payment recipients who suffered a cancellation or reduction of payment following a review of property during the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04.
- (5) For the 2005-06 financial year, how many reviews of payment recipients' real estate property values are planned.
- (6) For the 2005-06 financial year to date: (a) how many reviews of payment recipient's real estate property values have been completed; and (b) can a summary of the results of those reviews be provided in the same format as provided in the answer to question no. HS41.

1181 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to the practice of bottom trawling within Australia's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ):

- (1) Can the Minister outline the extent to which the Government is aware of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) bottom trawling occurring within the Australian EEZ, specifically: (a) the number of vessels apprehended annually; (b) the estimated annual IUU catch; and (c) the estimated number of vessels employing this technique within the Australian EEZ.
- (2) What measures is the Government employing to deter IUU bottom trawling within the Australian EEZ.

1182 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
With reference to the practice of unregulated bottom trawling on the high seas:

- (1) Is the Minister aware: (a) of the extent of the damage inflicted on deep sea coral and sponge environments by the practice of bottom trawling; and (b) that nearly all bottom trawling of the high seas is unregulated and the catch unreported.
- (2) Does the Minister support a United Nations (UN) moratorium on high seas bottom trawling until such time as legal instruments for the long-term conservation and sustainable management of deep ocean ecosystems can be developed; if not, why not.
- (3) Will the Minister support the resolution for a global moratorium when it is debated in the UN General Assembly in November 2005; if not, why not and what alternatives are proposed for dealing with the damage caused by the practice of bottom trawling.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1189-1219)—

- (1) For each of the past 3 financial years, on how many occasions has the Minister, departmental staff or the Minister's personal staff travelled by aircraft between Alice Springs and Tennant Creek.
- (2) For each trip can the Minister advise: (a) the date of travel; (b) the purpose of travel; (c) the cost to the Commonwealth of the travel; (d) whether the Minister travelled; (e) the classification of staff travelling; (f) the name of the carrier; (g) whether other carriers provided flights in the same direction on the same day as the travel taken; and (h) the reason the carrier who provided the travel was chosen over other carriers which provided flights in the same direction on the same day as the travel taken.

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Notice given 14 September 2005

- 1221 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) With reference to the first 6 months of operations of the new regulations governing random drug testing for Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel: (a) how many random drug tests have been administered; and (b) what is the total number of ADF personnel who have been tested.
 - (2) Who administers the test and what personnel are present during testing.
 - (3) To date, which ADF sites have been targeted in the random drug test program.
 - (4) For the period identified in (1) above, how many ADF personnel were tested in the: (a) army; (b) navy; and (c) air force.
 - (5) How many ADF personnel have tested positive to banned substances from (a) army; (b) navy; and (c) air force.
 - (6) For each of the instances referred to in the answer to (5) above, what types of banned substances have been detected in: (a) army personnel; (b) navy personnel; and (c) air force personnel.
 - (7) What disciplinary action has been taken against personnel who have tested positive for banned substances in the: (a) army; (b) navy; and (c) air force.
 - (8) How many ADF personnel are currently awaiting a determination of disciplinary action for substance abuse.
- 1222 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) With reference to the Investing in Our Schools Program, to date, how many schools in the Northern Territory have applied for funding under this program.
 - (2) Can a list be provided of the schools identified in (1) above, including a breakdown by government and non-government schools.
 - (3) Can a list be provided of the successful applications, including: (a) the name of the school; (b) the project details; and (c) the amount of funding.
 - (4) Are the schools which applied unsuccessfully in round one reconsidered in any further rounds or are their applications spent.
 - (5) With reference to the Parent School Participation Initiative program, to date, how many schools in the Northern Territory have applied for funding under this program.

- (6) Can a list be provided of the schools identified in (5) above, including a breakdown by government and non-government schools.
- (7) Can a list be provided of the successful applications, including: (a) the name of the school; (b) the project details; and (c) the date and amount of the funding.
- (8) For each of the successful cases, what is the amount of funding received by the schools in the past year under the former Aboriginal Student Support and Parent Awareness scheme.
- (9) Are the schools which have been unsuccessful to date reconsidered in any further rounds or are their applications spent.

Notice given 15 September 2005

1224 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to an article in the *Northern Territory News*, dated 14 July 2005, page 4, in which it was alleged that, over the next 5 years, funding for fisheries protection patrols in the southern ocean will be \$217 million, while for the northern fishery it will be only \$91.4 million, and that the figure for the northern area includes expenditure on the Darwin Detention Centre; and also to the response of the Minister that the Government spent a lot more in the north when all costs were taken into account, but at that time was unable to provide a breakdown of those costs:

- (1) For each of the northern and southern fisheries areas, can the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs by specific programs in relation to the following: (a) running Australian Customs Service (ACS) boats in fisheries, including vessel operations and crew costs; (b) navy patrol boats in fisheries protection; (c) running the *Ocean Viking* in the southern ocean; (d) running Coastwatch, for: (i) planes, and (ii) crew costs; (e) maintaining and operating any detention centres used for illegal fishers; and (f) any other costs attributable to fisheries protection (e.g. Australian Fisheries Management Offices).
- (2) For each of the northern and southern fisheries areas, how many illegal fishing boats have been sighted and recorded for the years 2004 and 2005 to date.
- (3) How many have been apprehended.
- (4) What was the type and quantity of the catch they were carrying.
- (5) (a) How many crew did they have in total; and (b) where were the crew detained.
- (6) How many of these boats were fitted with the more sophisticated equipment.
- (7) How many illegal fishing boats have been reported as having actually landed and where did this occur.
- (8) Given that it has been claimed (*Northern Territory News*, dated 13 July 2005) that illegal fishers are coming ashore on northern islands and that caches of shark fin have been found by the authorities, can the Minister confirm these claims; if so, how many such incidents have been reported and where.

- (9) With reference to the Minister's press release of 10 May 2005 (DAFF05/087M) which stated that Australian Fisheries Management Association would be funded with \$1.1 million for a system to positively identify detained fishers to ensure that repeat offenders can be identified: (a) what is this system; and (b) has it been established yet.
- (10) (a) How many boats, ACS or navy, are permanently on patrol in the southern ocean; and (b) how many boats are on patrol in the northern area.
- (11) Can a breakdown be provided of the locations of Australian Fisheries Management Offices around the country.
- (12) With reference to an article on page 1 of the *Northern Territory News*, dated 14 June 2005, in which it was alleged that Chinese mafia were funding illegal fishermen in the top end: (a) is the Minister aware of such stories; and (b) what is being done to follow up and investigate them.
- (13) If evidence of foreign business in illegal fishing exists, from which country or countries does it come.
- (14) With reference to an editorial in the *Northern Territory News*, dated 7 July 2005, in which it was claimed that illegal fishers and some commercial fishermen are plundering Australian waters for sharks, but that while Australian commercial fishermen are legally allowed to sell any by-product, such as shark fin, it is alleged that some are actively fishing for shark, given that it is difficult to distinguish between by-product and actively caught shark: is the Minister aware of these allegations; if so, what is being done to investigate them.

1226 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How much has the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) paid Ms Valerie Geller, or her company Geller Media International, for her services in 2005 (e.g. fees, airfares, accommodation, book sales etc).
- (2) For each of the past 5 years, how much has the ABC paid Ms Geller or her company.
- (3) How many ABC staff were flown to Sydney to take part in Ms Geller's training sessions in 2005.
- (4) For all ABC staff who flew to Sydney in 2005 to take part in a Geller workshop, what was the cost of airfares, accommodation and travel allowance.
- (5) For each of the past 5 years, what was the cost of airfares, accommodation and travel allowance for all ABC staff who flew to Sydney to take part in a Geller workshop.

1227 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the 22 Lithuanian war criminals that were referred to the Government by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in 2002:

- (1) Can an update on the outcome of these cases be provided.
- (2) Were allegations received; if so, when.
- (3) Did the Australian Federal Police (AFP) undertake an investigation into any, or all, of the named persons; if so, what was the outcome of each investigation; if not, why not.

- (4) Were charges brought against any of the individuals; if not, was this decision made by the AFP or the Director of Public Prosecutions.
- (5) Has any foreign government formally requested the extradition of any of these persons, either on a charge relating to the information mentioned above, or for any other reason; if so, were any extradition proceedings brought against the 22 persons named and what was the outcome; if not, why not.

1230 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Has the Croatian Government formally requested the extradition of Mr Antun Gudjel; if so, when.
- (2) Were the Australian Federal Police, the Attorney-General's Department or the Minister's office advised informally, prior to the formal request; if so, which areas were notified and when.
- (3) Has the Government made an application, on behalf of the Croatian Government, for the arrest of Mr Gudjel; if not, why not; if so: (a) when was the application made; (b) has a magistrate issued a provisional arrest warrant against Mr Gudjel; and (c) did the magistrate issue the arrest warrant.
- (4) Has the Australian Government requested any other warrants regarding Mr Gudjel; if so, what are they.
- (5) Can the Minister advise the stage which the extradition proceedings have reached.

1232 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each of the years 1996 to 2005 to date, how many visas have been cancelled because the holder was deemed to be a threat to national security.
- (2) Can details be provided on the nationality, visa class and visa number of the persons who have had their visas cancelled due to national security reasons, or subsequent security assessments, and the reason those assessments were undertaken.
- (3) Of those persons identified in (2) above: (a) how many had permanent residency; and (b) what were their nationalities.
- (4) For each person identified in (2) above, what was the time between the cancellation of the visa due to security reasons and the exclusion of that person from Australia.
- (5) Can a list be provided of the circumstances in which a person can be subject to a security assessment after being allowed entry into Australia.
- (6) In the situations mentioned in (5) above, is the person informed of why the visa has been cancelled; if so, at what time does this occur and in what format is the information provided; if not, why not.
- (7) What avenues of appeal are available against such a cancellation, both internally in the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) and externally; if there are no avenues of appeal available, why not; if there are avenues of appeal available: (a) what are they; (b) how are they used; and (c) for the years 1996 to 2005 to date, what has been the outcome of the appeals.
- (8) For each of the years 1996 to 2005 to date, how many visas have been refused because the applicant was deemed a threat to national security.

- (9) Can details be provided on the nationality, visa class and number of persons who have had visas refused due to national security reasons, or subsequent security assessments, and the reason those assessments were undertaken.
- (10) Has the department received any correspondence, e-mail, cable or telephone call from any government agency of the United States of America regarding Mr Scott Parkin in respect of subject matter that was likely to alter his security assessment; if so: (a) on what date was the information received; (b) from which agency was the information received; and (c) what was the format in which the information was received (i.e. telephone call, written letter, etc.).
- (11) Was the information used in the security assessment of Mr Parkin.
- (12) Were there any discrepancies between the information Mr Parkin supplied on his inbound passenger card to the facts known and by the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, DIMIA and the Australian Federal Police.

Notice given 22 September 2005

- 1237 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) For which species of sharks, rays and other marine species has the Minister given principal responsibility to the states, under respective Offshore Constitutional Settlement (OCS) agreements.
 - (2) Are the states required to meet any sustainability standards or management guidelines for these species as part of the OCS agreements; if so, what are these standards or guidelines.
 - (3) Can any such standards, guidelines or management plans be provided; if not, why not.

Notice given 26 September 2005

- Senator Marshall:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1242-1243)—
- (1) For the 2005 calendar year to date, can the names be provided of all legal firms employed by the department to undertake work for the Government on the development or drafting of workplace relations legislation.
 - (2) For each of the firms listed in the answer to (1) above, can the following information be provided: (a) when did the contract commence and when will it end; (b) what service is the legal firm providing to the Government; (c) has the legal firm seconded staff to the department; if so: (i) how many staff members have been seconded, and (ii) for how long are the staff members seconded; (d) has the legal firm seconded staff to the Minister's office; if so: (i) how many staff members have been seconded, and (ii) for how long are the staff members seconded; (e) what is the value of the contract; and (f) was there a public tendering process for the contract; if so: (i) when was the process advertised and in which publications, (ii) what details were provided in the tendering advertising and documentation, and (iii) can a copy of the tendering documents and relevant advertising be provided.
- 1243 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 1244 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—For each of the financial years 1999-2000 to 2004-05: (a) what is the number, by postcode, of Disability Support Pension recipients in Western Australia; and (b) can the information be provided by age and gender.

1245 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) Can a list, by postcode, be provided of: (a) the number of recipients of Carer Payment (Adult) in Western Australia; and (b) the number of recipients of Carer Allowance (Adult) in Western Australia.
- (2) For the period from 1 January 2005 to the present, can a list, by postcode, be provided of the number of recipients of Carer Payment (Adult) in Western Australia who were moved to the Age Pension on turning 65, for males, or the relevant qualifying age for women.
- (3) (a) Are carers who become entitled to the Age Pension able to choose either the Carer Payment or the Age Pension, or are they automatically transferred from the Carer Payment to the Age Pension; and (b) can details be provided of these processes.

1247 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) Can a list be provided, by postcode, of the number of recipients of Carer Payment (Child) in Western Australia.
- (2) Can the department identify the number of recipients of Carer Payment (Child) who are sole parents; if so, can a list be provided, by postcode, of the number of sole parents who are in receipt of Carer Payment (Child) in Western Australia.
- (3) Can a list be provided, by postcode, of the number of recipients of Carer Allowance (Child) in Western Australia.
- (4) Can the department identify recipients of Carer Allowance (Child) who are sole parents; if so, can a list be provided, by postcode, of the number of sole parents who are in receipt of Carer Allowance (Child) in Western Australia.

Notice given 28 September 2005

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1261-1262)—

- (1) With reference to the feasibility study into whether or not a health study of the sons and daughters of Vietnam veterans can be conducted; when will the study be completed.
- (2) Why has the feasibility study taken so long.
- (3) If the study concludes that a full health study of the sons and daughters of Vietnam veterans is feasible, when will the study commence and when will it be completed.
- (4) Did the feasibility study include a cost estimate of a full health study; if so: (a) what was that figure; and (b) how will the study be funded.

1261 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

1262 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Notice given 29 September 2005

1263 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—(a) How many marine parks and marine reserves have been declared since 1996 in: (i) Commonwealth waters; and (ii) state waters; and (b) can a list be provided of the marine parks and reserves declared in Commonwealth waters since 1996.

- 1265 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—What are the total funds in self-managed superannuation funds with a balance of: (a) less than \$50 000; (b) between \$50 000 and \$100 000; (c) between \$100 000 and \$200 000; (d) between \$200 000 and \$300 000; and (e) more than \$300 000.
- 1266 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—What are the average total yearly fees and charges for self-managed superannuation funds with a balance of: (a) less than \$50 000; (b) between \$50 000 and \$100 000; (c) between \$100 000 and \$200 000; (d) between \$200 000 and \$300 000; and (e) more than \$300 000.

Notice given 4 October 2005

- 1273 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—Can a copy be provided of the Integrated Cargo System's *Current Issues Register* as at 10 September 2005.

Notice given 5 October 2005

- 1282 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre Privacy Consultative Committee:
- (1) (a) Can the dates of committee meetings held in the financial years 2001-02 to 2004-05 be provided, together with a list of the organisations that attended each meeting; (b) what was the duration of each meeting; (c) what are the functions, powers and duties of the committee; (d) can minutes for each meeting be provided; if not, why not; and (e) can any outcomes or recommendations arising from the meetings be provided.
 - (2) If there were any recommendations arising out of the meetings: (a) what has been done to implement those recommendations; (b) what is the cost of implementation; and (c) what is the status of the implementation of the recommendations.
- 1283 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Does the department issue best-practice guidelines relating to the development of software.
 - (2) Are guidelines changed if: (a) the system is developed entirely for the use of the department or agency; and (b) the system is developed for the public to access a service provided by a department or agency.
 - (3) For both instances in (2) above, what is best practice in terms of the development of software and platform and operating system dependency.
 - (4) Can a copy of the guidelines be provided.
- 1287 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) (a) How many complaints have been made against the Blue Cross Nursing Homes & Hostels Group; and (b) can this information be provided by calendar year and individual facility; if not, why not.
 - (2) (a) Overall, what is the average number of complaints per aged care facility; and (b) how does this figure compare with the average number for facilities within the Blue Cross Nursing Homes & Hostels Group.

- (3) Have any facilities within the Blue Cross Nursing Homes & Hostels Group been visited by the Accreditation and Standards Agency; if so, when and why.
- (4) What additional services or lifestyle extras do facilities within the Blue Cross Nursing Homes & Hostels Group offer in order to gain approval to provide extra service places.
- (5) (a) Overall, what is the average additional fee for an extra service place; and (b) how does this figure compare with the additional fee charged by the Blue Cross Nursing Homes & Hostels Group.

1289 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) Did officers from Invest Australia hold talks with officials from the Government of China in September 2005; if so: (a) what was the nature of the talks; and (b) who attended the talks.
- (2) What undertakings were sought and/or given by: (a) Australian representatives; and (b) representatives from China.
- (3) Did representatives from China raise the matter of investing in Australian coal and uranium mining operations; if so, can details be provided.
- (4) Did representatives from China question whether they could circumvent export control measures on the use of Australian-supplied uranium if China owned some Australian uranium assets; if so, what response did officers from Invest Australia provide.

Notice given 6 October 2005

1291 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—As at 1 July 2002, 1 July 2005 and 1 July 2008 (or to the nearest relevant date where information is available) and in relation to each of the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme, the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme, the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme and the Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme:

- (1) What is the total number of persons covered by each scheme and the total value of government liability owed.
- (2) What is the total number of former public sector employees, not yet retired, and what is the total value of government liability owed to such persons.

1293 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the Australian Network of Industry Careers Advisors initiative, which includes Regional Industry Career Advisors (RICA), Local Community Partnerships (LCP) and Youth Pathways (YP):

- (1) Is it the case that there is only one RICA for the whole of the Gippsland area; if so, why.
- (2) Is it the case that YP has sufficient funds to assist only 107 young people each year.
- (3) Will YP replace the Latrobe Valley Jobs Pathway Programme which services more than 750 young people; if so, will YP service a larger area with more service recipients than the previous program.
- (4) (a) What is the level of funding for LCP for Latrobe Valley; and (b) does it differ from the funding received by the remainder of the Gippsland area; if so, why.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1295-1296)—Is the Minister aware of a proposal to build a memorial to the Cootamundra Aboriginal Girls' Training Centre on land at Hovell Street, Cootamundra, controlled by the Australian Rail Track Corporation; if so: (a) when and how did the Minister become aware of the proposal; (b) when and from whom has the Minister or the department received representations in relation to the proposal; (c) what representations relating to the proposal has the Minister made to: (i) the Minister for Finance and Administration, and (ii) the Minister for Transport and Regional Services; (d) what was the nature and the outcome of each representation; (e) if a representation was made in writing, can a copy of the representation be provided; if not, why not; and (f) if records of a representation were made, can a copy of such records be provided; if not, why not.

1295 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

1296 Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Indigenous Affairs

Notice given 10 October 2005

1299 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the implementation of the various provisions of the Government's Strengthening Cancer Care package:

- (1) How many additional undergraduate places for radiation therapists were provided in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (2) (a) Has funding been provided to the Peter McCallum Cancer Centre to begin the development and implementation of a training package for nurses who specialise in cancer care; (b) what is the status of development for this training package; and (c) when will courses begin.
- (3) (a) What is the status of development and implementation of the Continuing Professional Education modules for cancer professionals, counsellors and general practitioners; and (b) which organisation received the \$2.5 million funding to do this work.
- (4) (a) What is the status of development and implementation of the mentoring system to encourage specialists to spend more time in regional and rural areas; (b) which hospitals, providers and support networks have received this funding; and (c) how many cancer specialists have visited rural and regional areas under this program to date.
- (5) Has the National Breast Cancer Centre received the \$1.5 million commitment made in the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06.
- (6) Has the Breast Cancer Network Australia received the \$200 000 commitment made in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (7) (a) How many grants have been made for cancer care under the Local Palliative Care program; and (b) can details be provided of the location, purpose and funding level of each grant.
- (8) (a) Which organisations have received the \$1 million committed for the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to help build cancer support groups; (b) which cancer areas have been the focus of the grants made; and (c) what is the level of each grant.
- (9) Given that the Government promised 'up to \$10 million' to the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne for the completion of a children's cancer centre, what was the final level of funding provided.

- (10) (a) To date, what level of funding has been provided for the skin cancer national awareness campaign; (b) which organisations received the funding; and (c) when will this campaign be implemented.
- (11) (a) For the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, how many new cancer research grants were funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council; (b) do the grants in the 2005-06 financial year account for the additional \$4 million committed to cancer research; (c) which of the listed priorities for this funding received funds; and (d) how much did each priority area receive.
- (12) (a) Has the \$5 million committed to the National Research Centre for Asbestos Related Diseases been allocated; and (b) how and where is this research centre being established.
- (13) (a) Has the \$5 million in funding for clinical trials for cancer patients been provided for the 2005-06 financial year; and (b) how are these funds being utilised.
- (14) (a) What is the status of the establishment of Cancer Australia; (b) when will this body be established and functioning in its designated role in the provision of national leadership in cancer control; and (c) given the absence of a fully-functioning Cancer Australia body, will the National Cancer Control Initiative continue to receive funding for the foreseeable future to enable its important work to continue.

1300 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the commitment made by the Minister in October 2004 for a departmental review into SV40 contamination of polio vaccine used in the 1950s and 1960s and its possible links with cancer:

- (1) Is this review in progress.
- (2) Who is conducting this review.
- (3) What are the terms of reference for this review.
- (4) (a) When does the Minister expect to receive a report of the findings; and (b) will these results be made public.

Notice given 11 October 2005

1301 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Why did the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee decide to remove calcium tablets from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
- (2) What are the implications of this action for patients with kidney failure and osteoporosis.

Notice given 12 October 2005

1303 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—For the financial years 2000-01 and 2001-02:

- (1) What was the average actual adjusted taxable income of families who received Family Tax Benefit Part A via: (a) Centrelink lump sum; (b) Australian Taxation Office lump sum; and (c) Centrelink fortnightly payments.

- (2) What is the distribution of all Family Tax Benefit Part B and Part A customers' adjusted taxable income in: (a) \$5 000 bands between \$0 and \$100 000 per annum; (b) \$10 000 bands between \$100 000 and \$200 000 per annum; and (c) \$100 000 bands between \$200 000 and \$1 million or more per annum.

1304 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—For each of the past 5 financial years, can an updated table of Child Care Benefit reconciliation outcomes be provided: (a) by state and territory; and (b) by federal electorate.

1305 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to Family Tax Benefit overpayments in each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05, can details be provided, in tabular form, of the number of families who were overpaid: (a) by more than \$10 000; (b) between \$9 000 and \$10 000; (c) between \$8 000 and \$9 000; (d) between \$7 000 and \$8 000; (e) between \$6 000 and \$7 000; (f) between \$5 000 and \$6 000; (g) between \$4 500 and \$5 000; (h) between \$3 500 and \$4 000; (i) between \$2 500 and \$3 000; (j) between \$2 000 and \$2 500; (k) between \$1 500 and \$2 000; (l) between \$1 000 and \$1 500; (m) between \$900 and \$1 000; (n) between \$800 and \$900; (o) between \$700 and \$800; (p) between \$600 and \$700; (q) between \$500 and \$600; (r) between \$400 and \$500; (s) between \$300 and \$400; (t) between \$200 and \$300; (u) between \$100 and \$200; and (v) by less than \$100.

1307 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) (a) What Australian clinical guidelines exist for the prevention, screening, early detection and treatment of gynaecological cancers, including ovarian cancer, cervical cancer, uterine cancer and vulval cancer; and (b) what Australian consumer education materials exist regarding these cancers.
- (2) What has the Government done to raise the level of public awareness of gynaecological cancers such as ovarian cancer, uterine cancer and vulval cancer, to the same level as cervical cancer.
- (3) What funding is the Government providing to support research into the development of a screening test for ovarian cancer.

Notice given 13 October 2005

1308 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the statement made by the Parliamentary Secretary, Senator Colbeck (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2005, p. 9) that, 'Business plans submitted by Australian technical college authorities involving any large advertising amounts would be monitored in any case. However, if an ATC does need to spend more than \$100 000 on advertising to recruit quality staff and to attract students and employers, this amendment will have the affect of delaying the Australian technical college's ability to do its work':

- (1) (a) How will ATC business plans be monitored; (b) what will be the reporting mechanism of that monitoring; and (c) when will it occur.
- (2) How will the notification of, or accounting for, the standard information required to undertake such a project, such as its purpose and nature, the intended audience, who authorised it, its cost etc., in other words all the standard information required to undertake the project, delay the project.

Notice given 14 October 2005

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1310-1328)—In relation to each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio:

- (1) Can a list be provided of all programs that make up each output in the 2005-06 Portfolio Budget Statement.
- (2) (a) For which of the programs identified in (1) above are estimates advised to the Department of Finance; and (b) when were those estimates last prepared.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2005-06 to 2008-09, what are the most recent estimates of program spending or revenue for each of the programs identified in (1) above.
- (4) For each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05, what were the outcomes for each of the programs identified in (1) above.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2005-06 to 2008-09, what are the dollar amounts that are obligated or forward committed, contractually or otherwise, for each of the programs identified in (1) above.

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Notice given 20 October 2005

1331 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to the \$12.5 million Forestry Assistance Program for Western Australia and the \$2.5 million Grants for Forest Communities program, announced by the Minister on 26 July 2004, can the following information be provided: (a) a complete list of grant recipients; (b) the amount provided to each recipient; (c) when each grant was provided; (d) the purpose for which the grant was provided; (e) any conditions attached to the grant; and (f) a report on monitoring of compliance with the conditions.

1332 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Which consultancy firm was selected by the department to act as quantity surveyor or head contractor for the Defence Science and Technology Organisation Rationalisation Project at the Fisherman's Bend site in Melbourne.
- (2) What consultancy firm or individual was contracted by the department to provide initial advice and costings for the Fisherman's Bend project prior to second phase approval.
- (3) (a) What were the selection criteria for the firm that acted in the capacity of quantity surveyor or head contractor; (b) how many firms were considered for the project; and (c) what tendering process was followed for the selection of the successful firm.
- (4) With reference to the report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, *Defence Science and Technology Organisation rationalisation project, Melbourne* (5th report of 2000), tabled on 22 June 2000, in which it was reported that non-construction fees comprised one-quarter of the total project costs of \$56.171 million: (a) what was the amount of consultancy fees agreed for the head contractor at the commencement of the project; (b) to date, what has been the total amount of management fees paid to the head contractor; and (c) what fees payable to the head contractor are outstanding at this time.
- (5) (a) Has the rationalisation of facilities at the Fisherman's Bend site been completed; and (b) when did the new facilities become fully operational.
- (6) How many Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) staff members are now stationed at the Fisherman's Bend site.
- (7) (a) How many staff members from the DSTO Maribyrnong facility have been transferred to the Fisherman's Bend site; and (b) when will the DSTO site at Maribyrnong cease operations.
- (8) What other departmental sites currently house DSTO operations.

1333 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to the discovery of unexploded ordnance in Princess Royal Harbour, which falls within the jurisdiction of the Albany Port Authority in Western Australia: has action been taken by the department to identify the types of ordnance that are in the harbour; if not, why not.
- (2) (a) What specialist advice has the department made available to the Albany Port Authority to investigate the ordnance find at Princess Royal Harbour; (b) how many specialists were made available by the department; and (c) what were their areas of expertise.
- (3) (a) What on site investigations have been carried out by departmental specialists at Princess Royal Harbour; (b) which specialists attended the site; (c) when did the investigations take place; and (d) what were the findings of the investigation.
- (4) What research, if any, has been conducted on the quantity and type of ordnance disposed of, and the area and route taken for its disposal.
- (5) What assessment has been made of the likely condition of the ordnance.
- (6) What steps have been taken by the department for the removal or disposal of ordnance from Princess Royal Harbour.

- (7) Has the department prepared or commissioned any legal advice in regard to its liability for the removal of, or damage caused by, explosive ordnance in Princess Royal Harbour; if so, what was the substance of that advice.
- (8) Regardless of legal liability, what responsibility does the department have for such a task.
- (9) (a) On how many occasions has the Government attended mediation meetings with the Albany Port Authority and or the Western Australian State Government to resolve the issue of liability for the removal or disposal of ordnance in Princess Royal Harbour; and (b) when and where did the mediation meetings take place.
- (10) Was a case management Directions Status Conference held at the Supreme Court of Western Australia on 27 July 2005; if so: (a) did the Government argue against the matter proceeding to trial; and (b) what was the rationale for this decision.
- (11) (a) Is the Minister aware that consideration is being given to the development of the Southdown iron ore deposit by Grange Resources Limited and that, should this project proceed, it will increase port activity at Princess Royal Harbour and necessitate further dredging at the site; (b) what time frames have been put in place for the removal or disposal of ordnance in the harbour; (c) what agency within the department will oversee the removal or disposal of ordnance in the harbour; and (d) what is the estimated cost of the removal or disposal of ordnance.
- (12) What financial contributions will be made by the Government to meet the additional costs of dredging Princess Royal Harbour as a result of explosive ordnance found.
- (13) (a) In the past 5 years, on how many occasions has the department considered ordnance recovery; (b) at what sites; and (c) with what outcome and cost in each instance.
- (14) With reference to a letter dated 30 May 2005, in which the Federal Member for O'Connor (Mr Tuckey) states that he has made representations to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence requesting that the Navy Clearance Diving Team undertake clearing areas where it is anticipated further unexploded ordnance might exist in Princess Royal Harbour: has any consideration has been given to this proposal; if not, why not.

Notice given 24 October 2005

1334 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Since 30 June 2000, how many contracts have been let by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to Acumen Partners or any related entities.
- (2) In each case: (a) when was the contract signed; (b) what was the life of the contract; (c) when did work on the contract commence; (d) when was each contract completed; and (e) was the contract the subject of a tender process; if so: (i) was the tender process in the form of an open tender or a select tender, and (ii) what process was followed in calling for tenders.

- (3) For each case in which contracts were not the subject of a tender process:
 - (a) what was the nature of the work to be done; (b) what was the value of the tender; (c) was the cost of the work varied; (d) what was the cost to CASA of this variation; and (e) what was the basis for the variation.

1335 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question CASA 18 provided to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee following the estimate hearings in May 2005:

- (1) Can a detailed program be provided of the travel undertaken by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Byron, including: (a) the total cost of the travel; (b) the cost of travel undertaken while in Europe; (c) the number of meetings planned and the actual number of meetings that took place, including the names and organisations of the people Mr Byron met; (d) the cost of accommodation and the names of the hotels used by Mr Byron; (e) details of any private accommodation arranged by Mr Byron during his trip; and (f) the cost of meals and other expenses, including details of those other expenses, incurred by Mr Byron.
- (2) Did Mr Byron provide any reports or briefing papers to the Minister or his office following this overseas travel; if so, what was the form of the material provided by Mr Byron and can a copy of the material be provided; if not, why not.

Notice given 25 October 2005

1337 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—For each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05: (a) how many departing temporary residents completed the Outgoing Passenger Card with respect to the Departing Australia Superannuation Payment; and (b) how many temporary residents departed Australia.

Notice given 2 November 2005

1339 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education—With reference to the New Apprenticeship Centre, trading as AMA New Apprenticeship Centre: for the year 2004: (a) how many commencements were facilitated; (b) how many completions were recorded; (c) how many completions were recorded as a proportion of all commencements; (d) what were the top 20 qualifications obtained; (e) of that top 20, how many commencements of qualifications were recorded; and (f) what is the proportion of the top 20 to commencements.

1340 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education—

- (1) What is the duration and value of the contract between the New Apprenticeship Centre and AMA Services (WA) Pty Ltd.
- (2) What is the contracted unit price paid to AMA Services (WA) Pty Ltd for each new apprenticeship it facilitates.
- (3) For each year that AMA Services (WA) Pty Ltd has been contracted as a New Apprenticeship Centre, what remuneration was paid to AMA Services (WA) Pty Ltd for: (a) commencement and registration payments; (b) 6 month post-commencement payments; and (c) completion payments.

Notice given 3 November 2005

- 1342 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) What proportion of the departmental case officers who deal with asylum seekers are: (a) permanent public servants; and (b) employed on contracts.
 - (2) With respect to the performance measures in the contract between the department and Correctional Services Australia (CSA) for provision of detention services, how many instances of critical or substantial breaches of the standards have there been, as defined in the contract.
 - (3) Under what circumstances can the department terminate the contract on the grounds that CSA have not adequately met their contractual obligations.
 - (4) (a) Was the performance record of the parent company of CSA, the Wackenhut Corporation, taken into account when selecting it to manage detention facilities in Australia; and (b) was the quality of care that would be provided to detainees provided for within the selection criteria.
- 1343 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Over the past 5 years: (a) how many asylum seekers have been in detention for more than 3 months; (b) what has been the total cost to Australian taxpayers of detaining asylum seekers; and (c) what percentage of the total number of asylum seekers has been accepted as genuine refugees.
- 1344 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Does the Government perform any checks on people who claim refugee status, but are sent back to their country of origin or elsewhere, and have been able to safely resettle in the country to which they have been sent.
 - (2) What percentage of people whose Temporary Protection Visas have expired: (a) have had their visas renewed; and (b) have been granted permanent residency.
- 1347 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1084 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2005, p. 145): can copies be provided of all permits issued by Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service for the importation of genetically-modified seeds of corn, canola and soy.

Notice given 7 November 2005

Senator Bob Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1349-1350)—

- (1) Is the department, or any other department or instrument of Government, providing any direct or indirect financial or other support to Mr Lewincamp's legal actions against Captain Martin Toohey of the Royal Australian Naval Reserve and several media organisations; if so, what is the nature and amount of that support.
 - (2) Is funding for independent legal advice for matters brought on entirely by his military service being provided for Captain Toohey; if so, how much is being provided; if not, why not.
- 1349 Minister for Defence
- 1350 Minister representing the Attorney-General

Notice given 8 November 2005

1353 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For the financial years 2003-04 and 2004-05 to the end of May 2005, how many reviews were conducted by Comsuper of former Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel under 65 years of age and in receipt of incapacity payments as a result of medical discharge A, B and C.
- (2) (a) In how many of those reviews were reductions made to incapacity payments; (b) how many were cancelled; and (c) what was the average reduction.
- (3) Of those reviewed, how many former personnel were in receipt of separate benefits from the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).
- (4) In reviewing and reducing incapacity payments, is consultation conducted with DVA on each DVA client affected.
- (5) (a) What is the current liability for incapacity payments to former ADF personnel under 65 years of age; and (b) what reduction has been made as a result of the reviews conducted in the years indicated in (1) above.
- (6) (a) How many reviews, where reduced pensions have resulted, have in turn been appealed; and (b) what number and percentage have been altered in the appellants' favour.
- (7) In reviewing incapacity payments, what assistance is provided with respect to vocational training and assistance with employment.

Notice given 9 November 2005

1355 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has the Minister received requests for ex gratia/act of grace payments in respect of the suicide of Mr Jeremy Hayward, Mr John Satatas, Mr Nicholas Shiels and Mr Jeremy Williams; if so, what actions have been undertaken to expedite these matters in light of the undertaking in the Government's response to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee's report, *Inquiry into the effectiveness of Australia's military justice system*, to 'clear the backlog of grievances ... by the end of 2005'.
- (2) Who in the department is responsible for expediting these matters.
- (3) Over the past 3 years: (a) how many requests have been received by the Minister or the department for ex gratia/act of grace payments by Australian Defence Force personnel or their families; and (b) in each case: (i) what was the nature of the incident, and (ii) what resolution was reached.
- (4) Over the past 3 years: (a) what ex gratia/act of grace payments have been made; (b) what were the amounts involved; and (c) who received the payments.

Notice given 10 November 2005

1357 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What safeguards will the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission employ to ensure that, if it approves the National Australia Bank's (NAB) proposed 25 per cent equity stake in Cash Services Australia (CSA): (a) the NAB will not be able to restructure CSA's operations in an anti-competitive manner; and (b) the NAB does not become a customer of CSA after any anti-competitive restructures that may be made in the future.
- (2) What arrangements, other than seeking undertakings, will be used to restrain NAB from seeking involvement in the day-to-day operations of CSA.
- (3) What arrangements will be made to ensure that the NAB does not engage in other anti-competitive practices on behalf of the other major banks in the cash-in-transit industry through an equity stake in CSA.

1358 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) When did the department's Family Support Funding Program (FSFP) commence; and (b) what is the annual budget of the program for each of the financial years 2000-01 to date.
- (2) (a) What guidelines exist for the distribution of funds to defence groups; and (b) can a copy of the guidelines be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) What groups are eligible for funding under FSFP.
- (4) When are details of funding arrangements for the next financial year provided to the groups concerned.
- (5) (a) For each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05, what was the distribution of funds under this program, by defence bases; and (b) what programs were supported by the funding.
- (6) What other funding programs can be accessed by defence personnel to ensure that community services, such as child care, are available at defence bases.

Notice given 15 November 2005

1359 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For each of the past 5 years, how many independent probity supervisors have been appointed by the department and for which tender processes.
- (2) (a) What was the name and position of each probity supervisor; (b) what was the cost of each appointment; and (c) what was the term of each appointment.
- (3) In each case, who appointed the probity supervisor.

Notice given 17 November 2005

1360 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) funding arrangements:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2001-02 to 2005-06, what is the funding allocated to each NTRB.

- (2) Is the funding for NTRBs indexed; if so, on what basis (e.g. Consumer Price Index).
- (3) For the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, how many funding modules for assistance for specific native title claims or Independent Land Use Agreements (ILUA) were submitted by NTRBs throughout Australia.
- (4) (a) What methodology and criteria were used by the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) to assess, approve or reject these submissions; and (b) who formally approves the submissions.
- (5) For the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, how many funding modules for assistance for specific native title claims or IULAs: (a) were approved by OIPC; and (b) were rejected by OIPC.
- (6) Can a list be provided of the native title claims that did not receive funding in the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06.
- (7) How many native title claims have not received representation due to a lack of funding in the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06.
- (8) Were NTRBs given notice regarding the denial of funding for specific claims.
- (9) How and when were NTRBs consulted in the process of determining which claims would receive funding.
- (10) Does the Government intend to commit funding to the claims that presently lack funding; if so, when, and can details be provided for each claim.

1361 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—For each of the past 5 financial years and for 2005-06 to date: (a) how many customers received a Pensioner Education Supplement (PES); and (b) can the total number of PES recipients be broken down by: (i) state and territory, (ii) federal electorate, (iii) gender, (iv) age group, and (v) payment type.

1362 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to Aboriginal Hostels Limited (AHL):

- (1) Why has the number of community-operated hostels, which in the 2000-01 financial year numbered 86 according to the AHL annual report for 2004-05, declined from 82 to 72 since the 2002-03 financial year.
- (2) (a) Has the demand for Aboriginal hostels increased or decreased between the years 2000 to date; and (b) what data is used to measure demand.
- (3) Have any assessments of need for Aboriginal hostels been made by AHL or the department; if so, when and: (a) can a list be provided of these assessments or surveys; and (b) can copies of any associated assessments and/or statistical reports be provided.
- (4) With reference to the five community-operated hostels which had their funding removed due to their inability to comply with their service level agreements, as recorded on page 23 of the AHL annual report for 2004-05: (a) can a copy be provided of the 'service level agreements' that apply to hostels; (b) when were these service level agreements introduced; (c) what requirements do they impose on the hostels; (d) how many hostels had their funding withdrawn in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04; (e) can a list be provided of the hostels which lost their funding in the 2004-05 financial year; (f) for each of the hostels, how long were they receiving government funds; (g) what level of funding was previously allocated to each of the hostels; (h) on what dates was funding for each of the hostels cut; (i) with which term or terms of the service level agreement

did these hostels fail to comply; (j) what act or omission constituted the failure to comply; (k) were the hostels given notice of intention to cut funding, due to non-compliance; if so, when; (l) were any steps taken to assist the hostels in complying with the agreement; if so, what were they; (m) how much time was given to the hostels to comply; (n) did the hostels provide the agency with an explanation of their non-compliance; if so, what was the explanation; and (o) what has happened to the funds that were taken back from the hostels.

- (5) Can the department confirm that in the 2004-05 financial year, community-based hostels were allocated \$8 300 000 and company-operated hostels were allocated \$33 224 000, and that the community-based hostels provided more available beds over the period.
- (6) Why do community-based hostels provide more available beds than company-operated hostels while receiving less funding.
- (7) For the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05, what was the average annual cost per bed to the Commonwealth for: (a) community-based hostels; and (b) company-operated hostels.
- (8) Do community-based hostels receive funding from other sources; if so, from where and how much.
- (9) Are Community Development Employment Project workers employed in community-based hostels; if so, what percentage of the workforce do they represent.
- (10) (a) What percentage of staff in company-operated hostels are Indigenous; and (b) what percentage of staff in community-operated hostels are Indigenous.
- (11) (a) What was the target of guest capacity in the 2003-04 financial year for community-operated hostels; (b) what is the target for the 2005-06 financial year; (c) can an explanation be given for any increases or decreases; and (d) has this been reflected in the amount of funding provided to community-operated hostels.

1363 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS):

- (1) Can details be provided of any specific measures (including funding) to target FAS: (a) in the National Alcohol Strategy from 2001 to 2003-04; and (b) under other components of the health budget.
- (2) With reference to the occasional paper, 'Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: A Literature Review' published by the department in August 2002, commissioned by the National Expert Advisory Committee on Alcohol and written by Colleen O'Leary: (a) what was the Government's response to this paper; (b) has this response been fully implemented; if not, what in the response is outstanding; and (c) what action has the Government taken since the release of this paper.
- (3) Given that the Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit commenced active surveillance of FAS in January 2001, with monthly reporting by more than one thousand paediatricians in Australia; and given that the occasional paper states that the study was to continue for 3 years and aims to document the incidence of FAS: (a) has this study been completed; if so, when; if not, when will it be completed; (b) was a report prepared by the unit at the completion of the study; if so, can a copy be provided; (c) what were the conclusions of the study; (d) can any statistics that were identified in

relation to FAS be provided; (e) did the report contain any recommendations; if so, what were they; (f) what has been the response of the Government to the conclusions of this study; and (g) what steps has the Government taken to respond to the study.

- (4) What specific measures to target FAS does the National Alcohol Strategy 2005-09 contain, particularly in relation to Indigenous communities.
- (5) (a) How much funding is allocated to these specific measures and can a breakdown be provided by: (i) departmental costs, and (ii) administered funds; and (b) where are these funds set out in the budget papers.
- (6) Can a list be provided of administered funds, per activity, and departmental costs under the National Alcohol Strategy 2005-09.
- (7) Can the department confirm plans to establish a national working group on FAS; if so: (a) when will this group be established; (b) what will be the objectives of this group; (c) what will be the time frame for achieving these objectives; (d) who will be represented in this working group; (e) how long will this group exist; (f) how many times a year will the group meet; (g) how much funding will be allocated to the establishment and operation of this group; (h) where will this funding come from; and (i) where is the funding located in the budget papers.

Notice given 21 November 2005

1364 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the eight community grants identified as Family and Community Service (FACS) Budget measures in the 2005 Budget:

- (1) (a) Under what FACS programs were the eight community projects listed in the 2005 Budget funded; and (b) were they funded on an ad-hoc basis.
- (2) Why were these eight projects separately identified in the 2005 Budget, while many other grants awarded by FACS were not.
- (3) When did the department last, if ever, identify local community grants as a separate budget measure.
- (4) Who made each of the election commitments relating to these grants and when were the commitments made.
- (5) Were claims made by local Coalition candidates that they were responsible for securing the funding for these projects.
- (6) What role did the relevant Coalition candidates in each of the electorates play in getting the grants approved.
- (7) When did the department first become aware: (a) of the eight projects; and (b) that it would be responsible for funding the projects.
- (8) Can the Minister confirm that seven of the eight projects (all except the Eastern Access Community Health project) were included in a list of Regional Partnership Program grants administered by the Department of Transport and Regional Services that was circulated in November 2004 after the election.
- (9) Had seven of the eight projects been approved for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program.
- (10) What was the status of these seven projects under the Regional Partnerships Program.

- (11) Was there a decision to transfer these seven projects from the Regional Partnerships Program to FACS; if so: (a) when and why; (b) who made the decision; and (c) why were these projects transferred.
- (12) Has there been any other instances in which grants have been transferred to FACS from a grants program in another department.
- (13) With reference to each grant, what was the process by which the funding for these projects was approved, specifically: (a) did the department undertake any assessment on the viability and/or quality of the proposed projects; if so, when; (b) did the department provide any advice or recommendations to the Minister in relation to the funding of these projects; (c) did the department provide any information to the Minister in relation to these projects; (d) did the Minister formally approve the funding for the projects; if so: (i) when, and (ii) was this approval in accordance with the recommendations, if any, provided by the department; and (e) under what power was the funding for these projects appropriated.
- (14) With reference to each of the eight projects, was there an application made by an organisation in relation to the project prior to the 2004 election; if so: (a) when were these applications received; (b) under what program were they received; (c) had these applications been assessed under that program prior to the 2004 election; and (d) what was the result of that assessment, that is, were they approved or rejected.
- (15) In the months leading up to the 2004 election, was the department asked to provide information to a Minister's office on individual grant applications, which may have included the eight applications.
- (16) Has the department provided information to a Minister's office in relation to grant applications outside the normal approval process; if so, can a list be provided of the instances in which this has occurred.
- (17) (a) In terms of the ongoing administration of these projects, are they being treated like other community grants under the Local Solutions program; and (b) is the area responsible for this program administering the grants.
- (18) To date, what funding has been paid under each of the eight grants.

1365 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) and Indigenous employment:

- (1) With reference to the Top End Aboriginal Land Management and Employment Strategy 2004-06: (a) what are the key objectives of the strategy; (b) does the strategy contain any targets in relation to Indigenous employment; (c) which agency is responsible for the strategy; (d) which agencies are involved in the strategy and can the financial contribution of each agency from 2004-06 be provided; (e) how much funding (both administered and departmental) has the ILC spent to date on the strategy and where do the funds appear in the budget papers; (f) how much has been spent in total by all agencies on the strategy to date; (g) how many ongoing, full-time positions have been created as a result of this strategy; (h) how many of these full-time positions have been filled by Indigenous people; (i) how many ongoing, part-time positions have been created as a result of this strategy; and (j) how many of these full-time positions have been filled by Indigenous people.

- (2) With reference to the ILC's submission to the inquiry of the House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs into Indigenous employment, which stated that in the 2003-04 financial year more than 50 Indigenous people were employed by ILC-operated businesses: (a) what is an 'ILC-operated business'; (b) how many ILC-operated businesses were there in the financial years 2003-04 to 2005-06 to date; (c) how many people (both Indigenous and non-Indigenous) were employed in ILC-operated businesses in the financial years 2003-04 to 2005-06 to date; and (d) what number and percentage did Indigenous people represent out of the total number of employees in ILC-operated businesses for the financial years 2004-05 to 2005-06 to date.
- (3) With reference to the ILC's submission referred to in (2) above, which stated that the ILC currently employs 22 Indigenous people, representing 23 per cent of the ILC's total staffing: (a) how many of these 22 staff were in ongoing positions; (b) how many were in non-ongoing positions; (c) how many were cadets and trainees; (d) what was the number of Indigenous staff employed by the ILC in the financial years 2004-05 to 2005-06 to date; and (e) can both actual numbers and percentages of total persons employed by the ILC be provided.
- (4) With reference to a table of Indigenous staff members in the ILC submission mentioned in (2) above, indicating that Indigenous staffing levels remained around 28 to 29 per cent between mid-1996 to mid-2002 and at May 2005, the percentage of Indigenous staff was 23 per cent: (a) why has there been a decline in Indigenous staffing levels since 2002; (b) what is the length of service of each Indigenous person currently employed at the ILC; (c) how many new employees have been employed by the ILC since 1996 and how many of these employees have been Indigenous; (d) has the ILC taken any steps to increase recruitment of Indigenous people; if so, what steps and when did they begin; (e) has the ILC set any targets or goals in relation to Indigenous employment; (f) does the ILC give preference to Indigenous candidates in any way in the selection process; if so, how; (g) how many of the three Indigenous cadets and four Indigenous traineeships have resulted in ongoing employment at the ILC.

1366 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) acquisitions: Can a list be provided of the ILC's property interests in each state and territory, including: (a) the specific location; (b) the nature and duration of the interest; (c) when it was acquired; (d) how much ILC paid or is paying for the interest; (e) the current value of the investment; and (f) for what purpose was the interest acquired (e.g. cultural, economic).

1367 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC):

- (1) Is the divestment of land acquisitions to Aboriginal ownership (e.g. an Aboriginal Land Council) discretionary; if so: (a) when was this change introduced; (b) what was the rationale for the change; and (c) did the ILC make a public announcement in relation to the change.
- (2) To date, how many acquisitions have: (a) been settled; and (b) been divested.

- (3) Of the acquisitions that have been divested to date, can a list be provided indicating: (a) how many acquisitions have been divested to non-Aboriginal ownership; (b) the name of the non-Aboriginal recipient; (c) when the divestment occurred; and (d) the value of the acquisition at the time of the divestment.
- (4) Under what circumstances are acquisitions divested to non-Aboriginal corporates.
- (5) What is the general procedure for divestment of ILC's legal interests, including: (a) when does it take place; (b) what is the typical time frame; (c) what are the criteria for determining the appropriate body to whom ownership is being divested; (d) are these criteria specified and can any documented criteria be provided; (e) what is the procedure for selecting the appropriate body to whom ownership is being divested; and (f) will the ILC consider a request by a corporate body that it be the recipient of a particular divestment.

1368 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to *The Grog Book: Strengthening Indigenous Community Action on Alcohol* published by the department in 1998 and reprinted in 2005:

- (1) (a) When was the idea of the book first conceived in the department; (b) how did the idea originate; (c) what are the objectives of the book; and (d) when did the department begin funding the preparation of the book.
- (2) (a) What was the cost of preparing the first edition of the book, including departmental costs and author fees; (b) from which program did the funding come; and (c) where does the funding for these costs and fees appear in the budget papers.
- (3) (a) To date, what has been the total funding allocated and spent on the book and promotional material; (b) what is the breakdown of funds for: (i) preparation, (ii) printing, (iii) distribution, and (iv) other related departmental costs; and (c) from which program or programs has this funding been sourced.
- (4) (a) What was the date (month and year) of each print run; (b) how many copies were printed in each run; (c) what was the cost of printing for each run; and (d) where in the budget papers is the relevant program and funding.
- (5) (a) When was it decided to revise the first edition of the book; and (b) what was the principal reason for revising the book.
- (6) What were the departmental costs of revising the book and any other authoring or revision fees.
- (7) (a) For each year since 1998, how many copies of the book have been distributed; and (b) how many copies of the book does the department currently have in storage or stock.
- (8) What promotional material relating to the book was produced.
- (9) (a) When were promotional posters produced for the original print and reprint runs; (b) how many posters were produced at each print run; and (c) what was the cost of each poster print run.
- (10) (a) How has the book been distributed; (b) have copies been sent to every community; and (c) do communities have to request copies.

- (11) Has feedback been requested by the department on the success of the book in Indigenous communities; if so: (a) how has this feedback been sought; (b) which communities were consulted; and (c) what was the result.
- (12) Has the department facilitated or supported the use of the book in communities, for example, by sending officers to work with communities, looking at the issues raised by the book and identifying possible solutions that might be implemented in communities.
- (13) (a) For the years 1998 to 2004, what has been the total expenditure on Indigenous-specific alcohol strategies; and (b) how much funding will be allocated for the 2005-08 period.

1369 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Defence Security Project JP2054 Phase 1A:

- (1) What is the status of the project; and (b) at which departmental sites has the project been implemented.
- (2) Has the project progressed past Phase 1A; if so: (a) what phase is now being considered or undertaken; and (b) what is the expected outcome of this phase.
- (3) To date, what is the total cost of the project.
- (4) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 2112 (Senate *Hansard*, 24 November 2003, p. 17748), which advised that a Business Case Review of the project had been commissioned: (a) what was the result of the review; (b) what action was taken in light of the recommendations of the review; and (c) can a copy of the review be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05: (a) how many in-house personnel worked on the project; and (b) how many consultants were engaged on the project and what was the total cost.
- (6) When and why was this project removed from the Defence Materiel Organisation website.

1370 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the assessment of grants announced by the Prime Minister on 22 August 2005 under the Community Partnership Stream of the National Community Crime Prevention Programme:

- (1) Has Hillsong Emerge Ltd lodged two applications under the same scheme in the same round, one entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project and another entitled Blacktown and Riverstone Community Partnership.
- (2) Have both applications proposed a similar range of local initiatives (e.g. sporting events and life skills workshops), aimed primarily at the Sudanese and Indigenous communities in the Blacktown and Riverstone areas.
- (3) Has the application of the winning bid sought a grant of \$414 479.
- (4) Has the second application entitled Blacktown and Riverstone Community Partnership, sought a grant of \$498 620.
- (5) Were both applications assessed under the Greater Western Sydney region component of the National Community Crime Prevention Programme.
- (6) Can a detailed description of the assessment process of grant applications under the Greater Western Sydney region component of the National Community Crime Prevention Programme be provided.

- (7) (a) What criteria are applied to assess applications; and (b) do these criteria include the level of local support for the proposal.
- (8) In assessing and approving these applications, does the department or an independent assessor provide recommendations to the Minister who formally approves the grants.
- (9) (a) Who approved the grants announced by the Prime Minister on 22 August 2005; and (b) were the grants approved in accordance with the recommendations of the department or an independent assessor.
- (10) With reference to the application entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project, does its budget include the following administrative items with a total cost of \$229 300 over the 3 years of the project: (a) project coordinator wages and superannuation; (b) contract management; (c) administration and reception; (d) information technology and communications; (e) insurance; (f) audit; and (g) evaluation.
- (11) What is the proportion of the administrative items listed in (10) above to the total grant and what is the normal proportion.
- (12) With reference to the application entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project, does its budget include funding for courses run by Hillsong Emerge Ltd at the cost of \$1 000 a course, including 'Shine' courses.
- (13) Does the application entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project include the following performance indicators: (a) the number of people participating in each event; (b) the number of people participating in each excursion; and (c) the number of young people engaged in conversation.
- (14) In relation to (13) above, are there any specified performance targets; if not, how will performance indicators be assessed.
- (15) (a) On what basis was the application entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project approved ahead of other applications in the same round; and (b) was the amount sought for the grant a factor in the consideration of the applications.
- (16) Did Ms Louise Markus have any contact with the department in relation to these two applications: (a) as an employee of Hillsong Emerge Ltd; and (b) as an individual.
- (17) With reference to the Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project, how much funding has already been provided to Hillsong Emerge Ltd.
- (18) Were claims made by the Riverstone Aboriginal Community Association (RACA) that Hillsong Emerge Ltd attached a letter of support from RACA, intended for the application entitled Blacktown and Riverstone Community Partnership to its second application entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project.
- (19) Does the application entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project include a commitment from the RACA to contribute facilities to the project.
- (20) Is it the case that RACA had no knowledge of the application entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project.

- (21) Is the Minister aware of any media reports of the concerns of RACA.
- (22) (a) What action has the department taken to investigate the concerns of RACA in relation to the Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project applications claims; and (b) what further action is planned.
- (23) Can the Minister confirm that the Chief Executive Officer of Hillsong Emerge Ltd, Mr Leigh Coleman, provided a written undertaking to representatives of RACA on 22 September 2005 to support RACA receiving \$280 000 over the 3 years of the grant awarded to Hillsong Emerge Ltd under the National Community Crime Prevention Programme.
- (24) What discretion does Hillsong Emerge Ltd have under the grant entitled Hillsong Emerge Ltd—Greater Blacktown Community Partnership Youth project, to offer \$280 000 in grant funding to RACA.
- (25) What action has been taken to investigate the undertaking by Hillsong Emerge Ltd to provide \$280 000 in grant funding to RACA.

Notice given 24 November 2005

1371 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the department's annual report for 2004-05:

- (1) What is a 'new allocation', referred to in Table 2.21 on page 141.
- (2) With reference to Table 2.21, in which it is indicated that 17 per cent of new allocations in the Northern Territory went to those in the greatest need and that this figure is less than half of the Australian average of 36.3 per cent: (a) why has such a small percentage gone to those in the greatest need; and (b) can the relevant statistics from the 2002-03 financial year be provided.
- (3) Table 2.21 indicates that only 12.2 per cent of new allocations in Queensland went to those in the greatest need and that this is about a third of the Australian average: (a) why has such a small percentage gone to those in the greatest need; and (b) can the relevant statistics from the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 be provided.
- (4) Table 2.21 indicates that Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory had much higher concentrations of allocations targeting those in the greatest need; why was the targeting of those in need higher in these states and this territory, compared with the Northern Territory and Queensland.
- (5) Table 2.25 on page 142 indicates that the number of days taken to occupy vacant stock in Western Australia is 48 and 68 in the Northern Territory, compared to the national average of 37 days: (a) why; and (b) are disaggregated results specific to Indigenous communities available; if so, can the results be provided.
- (6) Table 2.27 found on page 142 indicates the number of dwellings in each state and territory; is disaggregated data on the number of dwellings occupied by Indigenous people in each state and territory available; if so, can the data be provided.
- (7) For each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05, can the number of new dwellings in each state and territory be provided.
- (8) Have any assessments of the level of Indigenous housing needs in each state and territory been undertaken, including the number of dwellings needed and the number of major repairs and replacements needed; if so, can the results be provided.

- (9) Can details be provided of the number of dwellings needed by Indigenous communities in urban, rural and remote areas.
- (10) For the financial years 2003-04 and 2004-05, can details be provided, on a state and territory basis, of the number of major repairs and replacements needed by Indigenous communities in urban, rural and remote areas.

1372 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the initiative, Fixing Houses for Better Health:

- (1) For each of the 19 projects that were funded across Australia for a total of \$3 million, can the following information be provided: (a) the location; (b) the start and completion dates; (c) the amount of money administered; (d) how the money was spent; and (e) the number of Indigenous people who received training as a result of each project.
- (2) (a) Was the \$3 million fully administered; and (b) what was the amount of departmental or administrative costs included in that sum.
- (3) Has this program had any connection with Community Development Employment Projects; if so, how are the two programs related.
- (4) For the 2005-06 financial year, how much funding has been allocated for this program; if no funding has been allocated, why.
- (5) If this program is funded for the 2005-06 financial year: (a) what is the anticipated number of projects that will be funded; (b) which communities have been selected as sites for this program; and (c) what activities are planned for these communities.
- (6) Has there been any connection between this program and shared responsibility agreements in any of those sites; if so, what is the connection.
- (7) What are the amounts allocated to each state and territory under the current agreement.
- (8) What are the amounts allocated to each state and territory for Indigenous-specific programs.
- (9) How are allocations to states and territories made under the agreement (e.g. is it on a population or needs basis).

1373 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the National Aboriginal Health Strategy (NAHS):

- (1) For each financial year since 2000-01 to date, can a list be provided of the amounts of funding allocated and spent under this program.
- (2) For the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date: (a) can a list be provided of the amount of funds that have been, or will be, administered through a shared responsibility agreement; and (b) what percentage of the total program funds does this represent.
- (3) What indexation arrangements apply to this program.
- (4) Can a list be provided, indicating: (a) the Indigenous communities that have been identified by the department as a priority under the NAHS; and (b) the communities which are listed as a priority under the NAHS that have also signed, or are in negotiations to sign, a shared responsibility agreement for access to the NAHS funds.
- (5) Can a community, that is listed as a priority, have access to NAHS funds without signing a shared responsibility agreement.

- (6) (a) Has any assessment of the level of demand for dual occupancy housing been undertaken; if so, can the figures, in absolute numbers and as a percentage of the total demand for housing, be provided; and (b) how has the department responded to this demand.
- (7) For the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, what percentage and number of dwellings built could be characterised as dual occupancy structures.

1374 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs) signed by the department:

- (1) On page 159 of the department's annual report for 2004-05 it is stated that the department has signed 9 SRAs and will potentially sign 79 more; can the current figures of signed SRAs and potential SRAs be provided.
- (2) For each of the SRAs signed to date, can details be provided on: (a) the names of the parties to the agreement; (b) the location of the community; (c) the date that the SRA was signed; (d) what the department agreed to provide; (e) what program funds were promised through the SRA and the details of each relevant program; (f) the amount of funds promised through the SRA; (g) details of what the community agreed to provide and any undertakings given; (h) whether the department delivered and implemented its side of the agreement; if not, why not; and (i) whether the community complete its side of the agreement; if not, why not.
- (3) (a) What number of the potential SRAs contain housing-related program funds; and (b) what percentage does this constitute.
- (4) What number of the potential SRAs are currently: (a) at the beginning of negotiations; (b) mid negotiation; and (c) near finalisation.
- (5) Can a list be provided of the locations of communities currently in SRA negotiations with the department.
- (6) Are there any SRA negotiations that have taken more than 12 months; if so, can a list be provided of these SRAs.

1375 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the Aboriginal and Remote Communities Power Supply Project announced on 22 April 2005, and to be implemented in five remote Indigenous communities in the Kimberley region (Bidyadanga, Ardyaloon, Beagle Bay, Djarindjin/Lombadina and Warmun):

- (1) What are the power tariffs being paid by these five communities.
- (2) Have these communities always paid for their electricity; if not, when did they begin paying for their electricity and why was this changed.
- (3) Was any consultation undertaken before the change; if so: (a) in what form were consultations; and (b) can a list be provided of the dates, places and parties to the meetings.
- (4) Are any subsidies provided to these communities to reduce the cost of power tariffs; if so, can the figures for the tariffs without the subsidies be provided.
- (5) (a) When was the idea of the project first conceived; and (b) what are the objectives of the project.

- (6) (a) Is the Minister aware of concerns about the impact of power tariff costs on the viability of local organisations, particularly those which deliver essential services; and (b) was the project developed in response to these concerns.
- (7) Has any assessment been undertaken of the average cost of power tariffs to the household and or local organisations in remote communities without normalised power supply; if so: (a) when was that assessment done; and (b) what region or communities did the assessment cover.
- (8) Has any assessment been undertaken of the ongoing financial viability of local organisations, particularly those providing essential services, given the costs of power tariffs; if so, what did it reveal and when was it done; if not, why not.
- (9) Can a time line be provided of events with corresponding dates to mark the progress of the project to date.
- (10) (a) Will construction begin in June 2006; and (b) why has it taken 14 months to begin construction.
- (11) Will normalised power supply to these five communities be provided by April 2007.
- (12) Will these communities be paying uniform power tariff rates once this project is completed.
- (13) (a) What communities in the Kimberley region currently have power supply but not normalised power supply; (b) will the project be implemented in these communities; (c) what is the time line for implementing this project in those communities; and (d) when will those communities have normalised power supply.
- (14) (a) Has the power supply situation been discussed with the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS), the leading agency for the Council of Australian Governments' trial in the East Kimberley region; (b) what was the purpose and outcome of discussions; and (c) when did discussions take place.
- (15) Has normalising the power supply in the East Kimberley region been discussed with DOTARS; (a) if so: (i) what were the outcomes, (ii) when did discussions take place, and (iii) where and when were the meetings; and (b) if not, why not.

1376 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Centrelink-truancy trial in Halls Creek, Western Australia:

- (1) How and when was the idea for the trial conceived.
- (2) What were the objectives of the trial.
- (3) Was legal advice sought on the legality of the arrangements before implementing the trial; if so: (a) when was the legal advice sought and received; (b) did the legal advice confirm that the arrangements were legal or illegal; and (c) if no legal advice was sought, why not.
- (4) When was the trial first implemented.
- (5) (a) What was the anticipated duration of the trial; and (b) when was the trial expected to finish.
- (6) Who participated in the trial.

- (7) Did all Indigenous parents on parental payments in Halls Creek participate in the trial; if not, why not.
- (8) (a) How were Indigenous parents on parental payments informed of the trial; (b) how was the trial advertised; and (c) can relevant advertisements or community information be provided.
- (9) Was the participation of parents in the trial voluntary or mandatory.
- (10) Was there any agreement between the parents and Centrelink; if so, can a copy of the agreement be provided; if not, can details of the contents and nature of the agreement be provided.
- (11) Was this agreement binding and did it allow for parents to 'walk away' from the trial if their payments were at risk.
- (12) Could one agreement cover more than one child.
- (13) How many agreements were entered into for the trial.
- (14) What was the legal basis for the agreements entered into between Centrelink and the parents.
- (15) Does current legislation provide for such agreements.
- (16) If there were no agreements, what was the basis for the arrangements.
- (17) (a) How many parents participated in the trial; and (b) how many children participated in the trial.
- (18) (a) How many times were payments suspended under the trial; and (b) how many times were payments cancelled under the trial.
- (19) How many parents had their payments suspended more than once and can a list with the corresponding number of occurrences be provided.
- (20) What was the legal impediment that caused the scheme to be suspended.

1377 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the power supply of Balgo, Western Australia:

- (1) What is the average power tariff rate in Balgo.
- (2) Does the Government provide any subsidy to Balgo to reduce the costs of power supply; if so, what is the tariff after subtracting this subsidy.
- (3) Has any assessment been undertaken of the average cost of power tariffs to households and/or organisations such as schools and medical services in Balgo; if so, when.
- (4) Has any assessment been undertaken of the ongoing financial viability of local organisations (particularly those providing essential services) given the financial impact of power tariff costs; if so: (a) what did the assessment find; (b) when was it undertaken; and (c) if it was not undertaken, why not.
- (5) Will the continued operation of organisations providing essential services in Balgo be viable, given the increased costs of power tariffs; if so: (a) is there evidence to support this conclusion; (b) what is that evidence; and (c) if there is no evidence, why has it not been collected.
- (6) Has consideration been given to making Balgo the beneficiary of a normalised power supply; if so: (a) what steps have or will be taken to normalise the power supply; and (b) has a time frame been established; if so, what is it.
- (7) Have discussions been held on the power tariffs situation with the Balgo community; if so: (a) when and where were the discussions held; (b) who attended; and (c) how did the department respond to these consultations.

1378 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to Cape York:

- (1) What was (or what will be) the date of the final handover of responsibility for the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) trial from the department to the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC).
- (2) When, specifically, did the department begin handing responsibility for the trial over to OIPC.
- (3) When did the department first indicate to OIPC or the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet that it was seeking to withdraw as leading agency from the COAG trial: (a) in Cape York; and (b) in Shepparton.
- (4) Can details of the Regional Partnership Agreement (RPA) that is being negotiated with the Cape York region be provided, including: (a) the name of the parties negotiating this agreement; (b) the names of those negotiating on behalf of the Cape York Indigenous community; (c) when negotiations began; (d) the anticipated completion date; (e) the anticipated implementation date; and (f) whether the RPA deals principally with welfare reform.
- (5) With reference to page 9 of the Indigenous Economic Development Strategy, which states that the Government is supporting the Cape York's Institute agenda through the 'implementation of welfare changes': (a) which welfare changes have been implemented; (b) which welfare changes are being considered; (c) will these welfare changes be implemented through a regional partnership agreement for Cape York; (d) will these welfare changes require legislative amendments; (e) will these welfare changes extend beyond the Cape York region; and (f) when will an announcement in relation to these welfare changes be made.

1379 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs —With reference to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the Government and the Minerals Council of Australia (MCA) on Indigenous Relations in June 2005:

- (1) Can a copy of the MOU be provided.
- (2) What was the object of the MOU.
- (3) Which government agency signed the MOU on behalf of the Government.
- (4) Did the Government approach the MCA, or vice-versa, in relation to the strategy.
- (5) Were there any Indigenous parties to the MOU; if so, who.
- (6) Were any Indigenous people or bodies consulted in the lead-up to the signing of the MOU; if so, can a list be provided.
- (7) Was the MOU made publicly available; if not, why not.
- (8) (a) What specific measures does the MOU include; and (b) what does the agreement provide.
- (9) Does the MOU include targets for Indigenous employment within specific time frames; if so, what are they.
- (10) How has this MOU been implemented.
- (11) Has the effectiveness of the MOU been monitored; if so, how and when was this done; if not, when will it be done.

- 1380 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Local Jobs for Local People initiative listed under the Indigenous Economic Development Strategy:
- (1) When did, or when will, this initiative begin.
 - (2) What specific activities and measures are included in the initiative.
 - (3) Does the initiative involve any new funding.
 - (4) How much funding will be allocated to the initiative.
 - (5) Where in the budget papers is the relevant source of funding for these activities associated with this initiative.
 - (6) Have any communities been identified as potential sites for this initiative; if so, which communities.
 - (7) How many communities will be covered by this initiative.
 - (8) What is the process and what criteria are applied for determining which communities should participate in this initiative.
 - (9) (a) Which communities are participating in this initiative; and (b) what steps have been taken under the initiative.
 - (10) Is this initiative connected with Shared Responsibility Agreements or Regional Partnership Agreements; if so, how, and can examples of connections be provided.
- 1381 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Indigenous Economic Development Strategy, which includes ‘targeted industry strategies’ that ‘aim to link Indigenous communities that have high unemployment with industries which operate within their region’:
- (1) (a) Are any strategies currently being developed; (b) with which industries is the department currently developing strategies; (c) at what stage are these negotiations; and (d) when will these strategies be announced and implemented.
 - (2) Which bodies have been approached to develop such a strategy, and when was the approach made.
 - (3) What measures will these ‘targeted industry strategies’ include.
 - (4) Will these strategies include targets for Indigenous employment within specific time frames.
 - (5) Are there specific communities which will be targeted with these strategies; if so, which communities.
 - (6) Is data available on those Indigenous communities that have high unemployment and which also have industries operating within their region; if so, which communities or regions; if not, when will this data be collected.
 - (7) Will any consultation with Indigenous people be part of the approach in developing these strategies; if so, can details be provided, including: (a) which members of the community; (b) which Indigenous representative bodies; (c) which Indigenous leaders; and (d) Indigenous Business Australia.
 - (8) Does the National Skills Shortage Strategy contain Indigenous-specific strategies; if so, what are they.

- (9) (a) For each of the past 5 financial years, how much has been spent on:
 (i) subsidising Indigenous employment in industry sectors, and (ii) on subsidising training; and (b) what forms does the subsidy take.

1382 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) activities in Tasmania:

- (1) Can a list of the acquisitions made by the ILC in Tasmania be provided, indicating: (a) their exact location; (b) when they were required; (c) the nature and duration of the interest held by the ILC; (d) the proprietors of the leasehold and freehold interest in respect of each acquisition; (e) when the leasehold interest was granted (where applicable); and (f) the purpose of the acquisition (e.g. cultural, economic).
- (2) (a) When was the last occasion that ILC funds were spent on any properties within Tasmania and what were the amounts involved; and (b) what were the total amounts spent on each individual property since the purchase of, or interest was obtained in those individual properties.
- (3) The 2003-04 annual report of the ILC states that none of the four acquisitions in Tasmania have been divested to Aboriginal ownership; has that changed; if not, why not.
- (4) Can details be provided of the ILC's interest in Clarke Island, Tasmania, including the nature and history of that interest.
- (5) Does the ILC intend to divest its interest in Clarke Island to: (a) the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania; if so, when; if not, why not; or (b) another body; if so, which one and why.
- (6) Have there been any meetings between ILC and internal or external parties in relation to the divestment of ownership of Clarke Island; if so: (a) when and where were these meetings; (b) who attended; and (c) can any related documentation or minutes be provided.
- (7) Has correspondence from the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania in relation to the divestment of ownership of Clarke Island been received by the ILC; if so, how has the ILC responded.
- (8) Has the ILC changed its divestment policy from one of centralising ownership to organisational ownership; if so, why.
- (9) Was there consultation with any Indigenous communities on making this change; if so, can a list be provided indicating which Indigenous communities or bodies were consulted and the period of consultation.
- (10) What body is currently responsible, legally and financially, for the land management and maintenance of facilities on Clarke Island; if it is the ILC, what steps has it taken to fulfil that responsibility.
- (11) Are there safety issues on Clarke Island that arise because of a lack of maintenance of the wharf and/or wharf access.
- (12) What is the usable level of Clarke Island's infrastructure and the Occupational Health Standards of the living quarters (i.e. electrical wiring and vermin proofing of cupboards etc).
- (13) Can details be provided of the ILC's interest in Trefoil Island, Tasmania, including information on when that interest began and what it entails.

- 1383 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the internal Australian Customs Service report, which was the impetus for the Wheeler Review of Airport Security:
- (1) (a) When did work on the report commence and conclude; and (b) who (or what committee) wrote the report.
 - (2) Can a list be provided (in chronological order as in (b) below), of: (a) the name and rank of each person to whom a copy of the report was provided; (b) the date it was provided to that person; (c) who provided it; (d) any action taken by that person in relation to the report; (e) when that action was taken; (f) if that person passed a copy of the report onto any other person or committee and to which committee or person it was passed; (g) when it was passed on to that person or committee; (h) if that person passed a copy of the report to any other government agency; and (i) why the person was provided with a copy of the report.
 - (3) Was a decision made not to release the report to the public; if so: (a) when was that decision made; (b) who made the decision; and (c) what were the reasons for the decision.
- 1384 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the case of Mr Michael Cahill, who went missing in Thailand in 1995 and is currently the subject of an investigation by the Queensland coroner:
- (1) What information was provided by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to the Queensland coroner investigating Mr Cahill's death.
 - (2) (a) What information was requested by the coroner but not provided; (b) why was it not provided; (c) what reason was given to the coroner as to why it was not provided; and (d) will it be provided.
 - (3) Was there a formal report completed on the disappearance of Mr Cahill; if not, why not.
 - (4) Is it standard practice to do a formal report in these situations; if it is standard practice, but one was not done in this case, why not.
 - (5) If a final report was done in this case, was it provided to the coroner; if not, why not.
 - (6) With reference to general police investigations of this nature overseas: (a) what is the general procedure in an investigation such as this; (b) what is the role of the AFP in such an investigation; and (c) what information is the AFP responsible for gathering in such an investigation.
- 1385 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the purchase of a new fleet of armoured vehicles to protect dignitaries:
- (1) (a) Was there a tender for the contract; if so, was the tender open, select, or direct sourcing; if not, why not; and (b) to whom was the contract awarded.
 - (2) If the tender was select: (a) why; (b) who was invited to tender and how were these organisations chosen; (c) how many tenders were received; and (d) which organisations submitted a tender.
 - (3) If the tender was open: (a) was it advertised; if so, where; if not, why not; (b) what was the cost of the advertisement of the tender; (c) how many tenders were received; and (d) which organisations submitted a tender.
 - (4) If the tender was direct-sourced: (a) why; (b) who was offered the tender, and how were they chosen; and (c) were other options of tendering considered; if so, which ones and why were they rejected; if not, why not.

- (5) What is the cost of the tender contract.
- (6) Has the organisation that was awarded the contract been awarded any contracts by the Australian Federal Police previously; if so, what contracts and when.
- (7) What is the cost per vehicle.
- (8) How many vehicles have been ordered.
- (9) How many vehicles have been delivered.
- (10) What is the time frame for the delivery of the remaining vehicles.
- (11) How many vehicles in total will be purchased under this program.
- (12) Of the vehicles that have been delivered: (a) when were they delivered; (b) how many are currently operational; and (c) how many are currently undergoing repairs, and what is the total cost of the repairs on the vehicles to date.
- (13) Of the vehicles that have undergone repairs: (a) how long has each car been non-operational due to the repairs; and (b) what is the nature of the repairs and the cause of the fault requiring repair.
- (14) (a) How many accidents have involved the armoured vehicles; (b) can details be provided of all accidents in which the vehicles have been involved; (c) how many accidents have rendered the vehicle non-operational; and (d) how many accidents have been the fault of the person in operation of the armoured vehicle.

1386 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—What was the total cost of Cargo Management Reengineering as at 30 June 2004 and as at 12 October 2005.

1387 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What agencies currently have access to the data stored by the Integrated Cargo System (ICS).
- (2) Which agencies will get access to the data stored in the ICS.
- (3) For each of the agencies in (1) and (2) above, indicate: (a) why access has been provided; (b) when was or when will access be provided; and (c) what data stored on the system will be accessible.
- (4) What is the process of accessing data from the ICS (that is, will it be automatically available, or will a request be needed for processing, etc).
- (5) What safeguards are in place to protect commercial-in-confidence information.
- (6) Are there any plans to link data stored by the ICS with other data-collection and collation services utilised with other agencies, for example, the document verification system being developed by the Attorney-General's Department; if so, when will that level of functionality become available; if not, why not.

1388 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the Australian Customs Service (ACS):

- (1) What are the key performance indicators (relating to time taken to clear cargo) for air and sea cargo clearance.
- (2) How many air cargo units are cleared within: (a) 2 hours; and (b) 24 hours.
- (3) Does ACS have the capacity to measure the time it takes to clear air and sea cargo; if not, why not.

1389 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the Australian Customs Service (ACS):

- (1) For the years 2003 to 2005: (a) how many mainframe capacity review (MCR) reports have been completed; and (b) can a copy be provided of each completed MCR.
- (2) With reference to the Integrated Cargo System (ICS) Import System, can ACS indicate what performance specifications and performance statistics were produced (by ACS or a third party working on behalf of ACS) for the month prior to 12 October 2005 relating to: (a) the capacity of the mainframe computer; and (b) the capacity of other computer systems.
- (3) Did ACS (or a third party working on behalf of ACS) produce any graphs or statistics relating to the aforementioned capacity; if so, can copies be provided.
- (4) Can ACS indicate whether any reports were produced (by ACS or a third party working on behalf of ACS) in the month prior to 12 October 2005 on the ICS regarding: (a) the capacity of the mainframe computer; (b) the capacity of other computer systems; and (c) if reports were produced, can copies be provided.
- (5) Subsequent to 12 October 2005: (a) what upgrades had been performed on the imports side mainframe; (b) on what date were these upgrades performed; (c) was the mainframe offline for any of these upgrades; if so, which ones and for how long; (d) what were the exact components that were upgraded, and what were they upgraded to; (e) were any additional components added; if so, what additional components were added; (f) what was the cost of these upgrades, broken down by each individual upgrade; (g) were these upgrades planned; if so, when were they originally planned and scheduled; and (h) why were these upgrades necessary.

1390 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Has any funding been allocated to the Cargo Management Reengineering (CMR) project from any other Australian Customs Service (ACS) units, deliverables, projects or subprograms.
- (2) Has any capital funding allocated for another purpose been transferred to CMR; if so, can details be provided for each transfer indicating: (a) the amount that was transferred; (b) the date on which it was transferred; (c) who gave the authorisation for the transfer; (d) the unit, deliverable, project or subprogram from which the money was transferred; (e) whether the transferred funding was general operating revenue from a particular unit, deliverable, project or subprogram, or if it had been earmarked for a specific project or projects: (i) what was the project, (ii) what was the total budget of that project, (iii) were there any alterations to the time frame or deadline of that project, and (iv) the total budget of the project prior to the transfer; (f) was that funding for a specific purpose for CMR; and (g) were any funds transferred from any other ACS unit, deliverable, project or subprogram to cover the shortfall caused by the transfer of funds to CMR.
- (3) Of those units, deliverables, projects or subprograms that have had funding transferred to the CMR project, was any funding transferred from another project to that project to make up the shortfall; if so, can details be provided for each transfer indicating: (a) the amount of the transfer; (b) the date of the transfer; (c) who gave the authorisation for the transfer; (d) the unit, deliverable, project or subprogram from which the money was transferred;

and (e) whether the funding that was transferred was general operating revenue from a particular unit, deliverable, project or subprogram, or whether it had been earmarked for specific projects; and if it had been earmarked for a specific project: (i) what was that project, (ii) what was the total budget of that project, (iii) were there any alterations to the time frame or deadline of that project, and (iv) the total budget of the project prior to the transfer.

- (4) Have any staff been seconded to the CMR project from any other ACS units, deliverables, projects or subprograms; if so, can details be provided for each transfer indicating: (a) whether the unit, deliverable, project or subprogram was an information technology (IT) project; (b) the number of staff that were seconded; (c) the date on which they were seconded; and (d) whether they were IT staff, or from another section.
- (5) In relation to staff that have been seconded, can details be provided indicating: (a) who gave the authorisation for the secondment; (b) the unit, deliverable, project or subprogram from which the staff were seconded; (c) the total number of work-hours that staff who were seconded to CMR from other areas of ACS performed; (d) the total number of work-hours performed in the CMR project per month for each of the years 2003 to 2005; (e) whether the secondment was to work on a specific purpose on CMR; (f) the number of staff who remained working on that project after the transfer of staff to CMR; and (g) the number of staff who subsequently transferred back to the unit, deliverable, project or subprogram from CMR, and the dates on which they returned.
- (6) Of those projects that have had staff transferred to the CMR project, were any staff transferred from another unit, deliverable, project or subprogram to that unit, deliverable, project or subprogram to make up the shortfall; if so, can details be provided for each transfer indicating: (a) how many staff were seconded; (b) the date on which they were seconded; and (c) whether they were IT staff, or from another unit, deliverable, project or subprogram.
- (7) In relation to staff that have been seconded, can details be provided indicating: (a) who gave the authorisation for the secondment; (b) the unit, deliverable, project or subprogram from which the staff were seconded; (c) the total number of work-hours that staff who were seconded to CMR from other areas of ACS performed; (d) the total number of work-hours performed in the CMR project per month for each of the years 2003 to 2005; (e) whether the secondment was to work on a specific purpose on CMR; (f) the number of staff who remained working on that project after the transfer of staff to CMR; and (g) the number of staff who subsequently transferred back to the unit, deliverable, project or subprogram from CMR, and the dates on which they returned.

1391 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Cape York Indigenous Employment Strategy:

- (1) (a) Who were the negotiating parties to this strategy; and (b) who are the parties that will be involved in its implementation.
- (2) Has the implementation of this strategy begun; if so, what steps have been taken; if not, why not and when will it begin.
- (3) (a) When will the 1 400 new jobs be created; and (b) what is meant by 'medium term'.

- (4) (a) What amount of funding will be invested in this strategy; and (b) over what period of time.
- (5) Where is the source and amount of funding located in the budget papers.
- (6) (a) Is baseline data of employment in the Cape York region available; if not, is this planned; if so, when; (b) how will the effectiveness of this strategy be monitored and evaluated; (c) how often will this occur; (d) who will be involved; and (e) what steps are being taken to replicate this strategy in other regions.
- (7) (a) Is a similar strategy being devised for other regions or communities; if not, why not; if so, at what stage are they; and (b) at what stage are each of the strategies.

1392 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) (a) How many instances is the Australian Federal Police aware of in which a person or persons with illegal drugs in their possession have entered Australia; (b) how many people were involved in each incident; and (c) was the illegal drug: (i) on their person; if so, where, (ii) in their baggage, or (iii) in another location; if so, where.
- (2) (a) In how many of the instances in (1) was a person intercepted and/or apprehended; and (b) how many persons were intercepted in each incident.
- (3) (a) In how many of the instances in (2) was the person charged; and (b) of those charged: (i) how many persons were charged as a result of the seizure, and what were the specific charges, (ii) how many non-carriers were charged, and what were the specific charges, (iii) did any prosecutions arise from the charges, and (iv) what was the outcome of each prosecution, including the number of convictions that were recorded for each instance, and the penalty in each case.
- (4) In how many of the instances in (1) and (2) was a controlled operation initiated to investigate the distribution chain, and for each of the investigations: (a) what was the cost of the investigation; (b) what was the number of persons charged as a result of the operation, and the specific charges; (c) was the person holding the illegal drug charged; (d) were there were any prosecutions arising from those charges; and (e) what was the outcome of each prosecution, including: (i) the number of convictions recorded for each incident, (ii) the number of persons who were convicted on each occasion, and (iii) the penalty in each case, and for each person convicted.

1393 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many Temporary Business Long Stay (457) and Temporary Business Short Stay (456) visas have been granted each year since 1996.
- (2) For each year since 1996: (a) what were the top 10 originating countries which granted Temporary Business Long Stay 457 visas; and (b) how many and what was the overall percentage for each country.
- (3) How many 457 and 456 visas granted were: (a) onshore; and (b) offshore.
- (4) How many successful applicants for 457 visas, in percentage terms, were in each occupational classification (Australian Standards Classification Occupations group).

- 1394 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Has any form of investigation or inquiry been undertaken into the Ballarat company, MaxiTrans, which in March 2005 reportedly put the apprenticeships of eight young Australians on hold in favour of importing tradespeople from China; if so: (a) who undertook this investigation or inquiry; (b) when was it completed; and (c) what were its findings.
- 1395 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) (a) What fees are 471 (trade skills training) visa holder apprentices required to pay; and (b) are these apprentices required to contribute in whole or in part to the cost of providing employer incentive payments to their sponsor employers.
 - (2) What does a 'satisfactory record' of training Australians entail.
 - (3) Will any formal mechanism exist to take account of current or former apprentices' opinion of their training.
 - (4) Will an employer be ineligible under this condition if any previous apprentices declare that they were not in fact provided with any formal training.
 - (5) (a) What does a 'demonstrated commitment towards training Australians' entail; and (b) does this include a requirement that businesses currently employ apprentices.
 - (6) What formal mechanisms, if any, exist for any other federal or state government agency, including but not limited to the Department of Education, Science and Training, to provide advice to the department on whether an employer fulfils this condition.
 - (7) Does the department require direct evidence of the fact that a position was unable to be filled by local recruitment, or is the certification of a regional certifying body sufficient.
 - (8) What evidence does the department deem sufficient for a regional certifying body to receive in order for them to certify that a position was unable to be filled by local recruitment.
 - (9) Is there any mandatory requirement that a regional certifying body contact, liaises with, or seeks opinion from, the state or federal government department responsible for training as to whether a position has been unable to be filled by local requirement; if that requirement exists in policy or procedure, can documentation be provided.
- 1396 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What constitutes an improvised dwelling.
 - (2) How many improvised dwellings were there as at: (a) 24 November 2005; (b) June 2005; (c) June 2004; (d) June 2003; and (e) can the figures be provided in numbers and percentages of total Indigenous dwellings.
 - (3) Did improvised dwellings constitute 4.2 per cent of the total Indigenous dwellings in 2004-05; if so, what initiatives are in place to reduce this figure.

Notice given 29 November 2005

- 1397 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is the Government aware that, on 11 May and 25 May 2005, the Papuan MP, Mrs Ferdinanda Yetipai Ibo, received death threats by text message indicating that her movements were being monitored and that she would become like Theys Eluay (the Papuan leader who was assassinated by Indonesian security forces in November 2001).
 - (2) Given the nature of the death threats and Mrs Yetipai Ibo's speech to the Indonesian Parliament in May 2005 advocating dialogue on peaceful solutions to human rights issues, has representation been made to the Indonesian Government concerning this particular case; if not, why not.
- 1398 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the business finance available through Indigenous Business Australia (IBA):
- (1) What are business development finance loans.
 - (2) Can separate figures be provided for the amount of loans and the costs of administering these loans under the business finance program.
 - (3) For the 2004-05 financial year, how many business finance applications were received: (a) for loans with a value equal to or less than \$25 000; (b) for loans with a value equal to or less than \$50 000; and (c) for loans with a value equal to or more than \$100 000.
 - (4) With reference to page 60 of the IBA's annual report for 2004-05, in which it is stated that 40 business finance loans were approved during 2004-05, and that 21 of those 40 approvals have progressed to establishment or settlement; for each of these 40 loans which have been approved: (a) what was the month and year in which the applications for the business finance were made; (b) what was the date of establishment or settlement of the loan, and if it has not yet progressed to this stage, when is the anticipated date of establishment or settlement; and (c) what is the value of the loan.
 - (5) For the 2005-06 financial year to date, how many business finance applications have been received.
 - (6) For the 2005-06 financial year to date, how many business finance loans have been approved, and for each of these approved loans: (a) what was the month and year in which the business finance application was made; (b) what was the value of the loan; and (c) what was the date of establishment or settlement of the loan, and if it has not yet progressed to this stage, what is the anticipated date of establishment or settlement.
- 1399 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the staff employed by Indigenous Business Australia (IBA):
- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2005-06 to date: (a) how many staff have been employed by IBA; (b) how many Indigenous staff have been employed by IBA; (c) how many full-time Indigenous staff have been in senior management; (d) what percentage of total senior management does this number represent; and (e) on what basis this staff was employed (e.g. full-time, part-time, cadet).
 - (2) What steps has IBA taken to increase the levels of Indigenous staff.

- 1400 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—What progress has been made in relation to the Tasmanian Greens' nomination for listing of the Tasmanian Devil (*Sarcophilus harrisii*) as vulnerable under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Notice given 30 November 2005

- 1401 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How long did it take the Kuwait officials to grant Australian consular access to Mr Talaal Adrey, and what were the reasons for this delay.
- (2) Given public allegations that Mr Adrey had been subjected to torture, why did a medical practitioner not accompany consular officials when they visited Mr Adrey in May 2005.
- (3) With reference to the statement by the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Mr Billson) that consular officials, following their visit, had concluded that Mr Adrey was in good health; is it usual practice to rely on the assessment of non-medical personnel to assess whether an Australian has been tortured.
- (4) With reference to Mr Billson's statement that the consular officials did notice some physical evidence consistent with Mr Adrey's allegation that he had been tortured, what physical condition did the consular officials note.
- (5) (a) What steps has the Government taken to investigate Mr Adrey's allegation that he was tortured; and (b) has the Government raised these allegations and sought a response from the Kuwaiti Government.
- (6) What steps has the Government taken to ascertain if there is any substance to Mr Adrey's allegation that a Westerner was present during his torture.
- (7) Does the Government have any normal procedure for responding to allegations of torture by Australian citizens; if so, what is that protocol.
- (8) For the past 5 years, how many Australians is the Minister aware of who allege that they have been tortured outside of Australia.
- (9) Does the suggestion made at the estimates hearings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee on 1 June 2005, that Mr Adrey's family never asked for a doctor to be taken to assess his health, contradict family assertions that such a request was made.
- (10) Does the Minister deny that a request from Mr Adrey's family was made.
- (11) Given that Mr Adrey's family speak virtually no English: (a) how have Government officials communicated with them; and (b) has an interpreter been present.

- 1402 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) (a) Can a brief summary be provided of the Comgas Scheme; (b) when was it first announced; and (c) what are its objectives.
- (2) (a) What is the total amount of spending on the Comgas Scheme, disaggregated on the basis of financial years from the commencement of the scheme to date; and (b) can figures be divided according to the administered funds and departmental costs.

- (3) What communities have participated in the Comgas Scheme to date and for each community: (a) to which state or territory do these communities belong; (b) what were the starting and ending dates of the communities participation in the Comgas Scheme and; (c) what were the administered funds from the Comgas Scheme funding pool (separated into figures for funds allocated and funds spent).
- (4) (a) What communities have been selected for participation in the Comgas Scheme; (b) to which state or territory do these communities belong; (c) what were the approximate starting dates for participation in the scheme for each community; and (d) what were the administered funds that have been either spent and/or allocated from the Comgas Scheme funding pool for each community.
- (5) Has the department or another Commonwealth agency made any representations to the Queensland Government in relation to the participation of Cape York communities in the Comgas Scheme; if so: (a) what representation was made; and (b) when was this representation made.
- (6) Has Aurukun been selected for participation in the Comgas Scheme; if so: (a) when; (b) who nominated Aurukun (e.g. the Queensland Government, the Commonwealth Government, the community itself); (c) what were the grounds for Aurukun's selection; and (d) can information be provided on the extent of petrol sniffing in Aurukun.
- (7) What is the anticipated starting date of Aurukun's participation in the scheme.
- (8) Have any Comgas Scheme funds been allocated to Aurukun; if so, what is the amount.

1403 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service—

- (1) With reference to page 83 of the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) annual report for 2003-04 in which it is stated that the Commission's evaluation program included, '...an evaluation of agencies' guidance on interactions with ministerial offices. This project examined in detail the factors influencing employees' confidence in balancing the APS Values in their interactions with ministers' offices, and considered what steps agencies could take to boost that confidence. The results will feed into both the State of the Service Report for 2003-04, and a good practice guide for use by agencies to be released in late 2004'; given that 'late 2004' is a year ago, when will this good practice guide be released.
- (2) The APSC state of the service report for 2003-04 indicated on page 253 that the relationship between the APS, Government and Parliament was a priority area for the Commission; is this still the case; if so, why has there been such a considerable delay in releasing the good practice guide.

1404 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—What is the estimated number of taxpayers within each tax threshold income range for the tax thresholds from 1 July 2005, and tax thresholds to apply from 1 July 2006.

1405 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—For the past 5 financial years: (a) what is the dollar value of uncollected Superannuation Guarantee payments that the Australian Taxation Office has 'wiped' from the debts to be collected, given that it is uncollectible from employers; and (b) how many employers and employees have been affected in each financial year.

- 1406 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—For the past 5 financial years: (a) what is the amount of exit tax collected on superannuation; and (b) from how many persons has it been collected.

Notice given 1 December 2005

- 1407 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) How many Indonesian fishing boats have been: (a) seen by authorities in Australian waters; (b) intercepted and turned away from Australian waters; (c) seized in Australian waters; and (d) approached by authorities but avoided interception in Australian waters.
 - (2) How many patrols have been conducted in Australian waters.
 - (3) (a) How many vessels are involved in intercepting illegal fishing boats; (b) what are the specifications of these vessels; and (c) in what ports are they based.
- 1408 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) (a) What factors, other than failure to ascertain the exact point at which the SIEV X sank, were relevant to the inability to prove jurisdiction to pursue the prosecution of those persons who organised the voyage; and (b) did the Government receive legal advice regarding a lack of Australian jurisdiction to proceed with a case of homicide against Abu Quassey and others allegedly involved in the attempt to smuggle people aboard the SIEV X; if so, can that advice be provided.
 - (2) Have members of the Indonesian Police now interviewed the harbourmaster of Sunda Kelapa port in North Jakarta in relation to the SIEV X; if so: (a) have the Indonesian Police passed on a report to Australian authorities; and (b) can the details of this report be provided.
 - (3) (a) Have the Australian Federal Police (AFP) or the Indonesian Police interviewed the fishermen who rescued the SIEV X survivors; (b) have Australian authorities received a report on any such interviews; (c) were coordinates of the rescue position of the SIEV X obtained through any of these interviews; and (d) how did these coordinates match with those contained in the North Jakarta harbourmaster's report of 24 October 2001.
 - (4) (a) Has the AFP interviewed the survivors of the SIEV X; if so, how many have been interviewed; if not, why not; and (b) will the Government interview all of the survivors of the SIEV X who remain in Australia.
- 1409 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) (a) How many rescues of suspected illegal entry vessels was the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) involved in between 1 January 1999 and 31 December 2001; (b) what were the codenames of those suspected illegal entry vessels; and (c) how many passengers were aboard those vessels.
 - (2) How many broadcasts to shipping and/or overdue notices related to suspected illegal entry vessels were issued by AMSA between 1 January 1999 and 31 December 2001.

- (3) (a) What action was taken by AMSA in relation to the rescue at sea of the suspected illegal entry vessel codenamed Gelantipy; (b) will the Minister provide all records that are held by AMSA in relation to the rescue of the vessel codenamed Gelantipy; and (c) will the Minister provide all records of telephone conversations held by AMSA in relation to the rescue of the vessel codenamed Gelantipy.

1410 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many rescues of suspected illegal entry vessels was the Australian Defence Force (ADF) involved in between 1 January 1999 and 31 December 2001; (b) what were the codenames of those suspected illegal entry vessels; and (c) how many passengers were aboard those vessels.
- (2) (a) What action was taken by the ADF on 27 March and 28 March 2001 in relation to the rescue at sea of the suspected illegal entry vessel codenamed Gelantipy; and (b) what records are held by the ADF in relation to the rescue at sea of this vessel.

1411 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) How many rescues of suspected illegal entry vessels was Coastwatch involved in between 1 January 1999 and 31 December 2001; (b) what were the codenames of those suspected illegal entry vessels; and (c) how many passengers were aboard those vessels.
- (2) (a) What action was taken by Coastwatch on 27 March and 28 March 2001 in relation to the rescue at sea of the suspected illegal entry vessel codenamed Gelantipy; and (b) what records are held by Coastwatch in relation to the rescue at sea of this vessel.

1412 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Was advice provided to the Attorney-General by the department, or any agency in the Attorney-General's portfolio, that went towards, or informed, the development of the Coalition's Police Training policy released on 7 September 2004.
- (2) Was advice or input given to, or received from, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of the Treasury or the Department of Finance in relation to (1) above.
- (3) If the answer is yes for (1) or (2) above: (a) what was the broad nature of that advice; (b) who requested the advice; (c) how was that request conveyed; (d) how was it provided; and (e) did this occur before or after 31 August 2004.

1413 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Was advice provided to the Treasurer by the department, or any agency in the Treasurer's portfolio, that went towards, or informed, the Coalition's mature-aged worker tax offset released on 9 September 2004.
- (2) Was advice or input was given to, or received from, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations or the Department of Finance and Administration in relation to (1) above.
- (3) If the answer is yes for (1) or (2) above: (a) what was the broad nature of that advice; and (b) was it provided before or after 31 August 2004.

1414 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Was advice provided to the Prime Minister by the department, or any agency in the Prime Minister's portfolio, that went towards, or informed, the Coalition's Commemorative Events in 2005 policy released on 7 September 2004.
- (2) Was advice or input was given to, or received from, the Department of Finance and Administration or the Department of the Treasury in relation to (1) above.
- (3) If the answer is yes for (1) or (2) above: (a) what was the broad nature of that advice; and (b) was it provided before or after 31 August 2004.

Notice given 2 December 2005

1415 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to Job Network placements for Indigenous Australians:

- (1) What is a Job Network placement; and (b) what is the duration of a placement.
- (2) (a) Is it a paid placement; (b) are wages subsidised by the Government; (c) what is the percentage and/or amount of this subsidy; and (d) what is the average job placement wage.
- (3) What are the differences between the active participation model, and what existed previously for job placements.
- (4) For each year since the inception of the Job Network to date, how many Job Network placements have been achieved for Indigenous Australians.
- (5) Page 3 of the department's submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs inquiry into Indigenous employment includes a table of job placements since 1998, which shows that there was a significant decline in the number of placements in 2003: (a) can an explanation be provided for this decline; and (b) was the decline due to the shift to the active participation model.
- (6) With reference to the Australian Bureau of Statistics report, 'National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey of 2002': (a) are Job Network placements included in the 2002 Indigenous employment figures; and (b) have the figures always been included; if not, when were they first included.
- (7) (a) How many Job Network placements for Indigenous Australians have resulted in ongoing long-term employment; and (b) when were these figures obtained.
- (8) (a) What is the relationship between Job Network placements and Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP); (b) are CDEP participants encouraged to seek work through a Job Network placement; and (c) how many CDEP participants have moved from CDEP to a Job Network placement for the financial years 2003-04 to 2005-06 to date.

1416 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the wage assistance measure available to employers who employ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people:

- (1) (a) When did the wage assistance measure begin; and (b) what similar measures preceded the wage assistance measure.

- (2) For each financial year since the measure began to date: (a) what amount of funding has been allocated to the measure; (b) what is the amount actually expended on this measure; (c) what is the number of approved applications for wage assistance; and (d) how many employees benefited from wage assistance.
- (3) Can statistical information be provided on categories of employers that apply for wage assistance including the categories of small business, large industry corporations and other types of employers.
- (4) Can local councils or government agencies apply for wage assistance.
- (5) (a) Can statistics be provided on: (i) the number of episodes of employment that are subsidised by wage assistance resulting in ongoing employment, and (ii) the longevity of the employment achieved as a result of wage assistance; and (b) when were these statistics collected.

1417 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to an Australian Bureau of Statistics report in 2004 that indicated that, in 2002, 46.2 per cent of Indigenous people aged 15 years and older were employed, an increase from 36.3 per cent in 1994:

- (1) (a) What did the category of ‘employed’ include in 2002 and what did it include in 1994; and (b) for both years, did ‘employed’ include: (i) people on Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP), (ii) people on Job Network placements, or (iii) any other category that is not unsubsidised, paid employment (name the category if it exists, e.g. employment that is subsidised by wage assistance).
- (2) Can a breakdown of 2002 statistics be provided, indicating the number and percentage of people who were in: (a) CDEP, Job Network placements and other subsidised employment; and (b) part-time and full-time work after the CDEP participants are deducted from the number.

1418 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) In relation to the funding provided for the Welfare to Work package, shown on pages 133-134 of Budget Paper No. 2: (a) how do those figures relate to the figures provided by the department in response to written questions W156, W157, W158 and W159 provided to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee during estimates hearings in June 2005; and (b) how do the program and payment cost figures provided in those answers relate to the Department of Education and Workplace Relations funding figures in the budget paper for the following initiatives: (i) increasing participation of parents, (ii) increasing participation of people with a disability, (iii) increasing participation of the very long-term unemployed, and (iv) increasing participation of the mature aged.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W156, relating to the initiative entitled ‘Increasing participation of people with a disability’, the department has provided figures showing net additional estimated program costs that total \$302 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W156, the department has provided figures showing net estimated payment savings that total \$590.5 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.

- (4) Can the Minister confirm that the budget paper shows a net additional cost of \$481.9 million over the 4 financial years to 2008-09, or \$449.3 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (5) Can the Minister explain the discrepancy between the figures provided in W156, which show a net saving of \$288.5 million (total of (2) and (3) above) in relation to the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of people with a disability' for the 3 financial years to 2008-09 and the \$449.3 million net additional cost as provided in the budget paper over the same period.
- (6) Do the funding figures in the budget paper include other funding items beyond those identified in W156; if so, can these be identified, along with the value of each of these items for each financial year from 2005-06 to 2008-09.
- (7) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W157, relating to the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of parents' the department has provided figures showing net additional estimated program costs that total \$386.3 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (8) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W157, the department has provided figures showing estimated net payment savings that total \$424.5 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (9) Can the Minister confirm that the budget paper shows a net additional cost of \$282.4 million over the 4 financial years to 2008-09, or \$255.9 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (10) Can the Minister explain the discrepancy between the figures provided in W157, which show a net saving of \$38.2 million (total of (6) and (7) above) in relation to the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of parents' for the 3 financial years to 2008-09 and the \$255.9 million net additional cost as provided in the budget paper over the same period.
- (11) Do the funding figures in the budget paper include other funding items beyond those identified in W157; if so: (a) can these figures be identified; and (b) what is the value of each of these items for each financial year from 2005-06 to 2008-09.
- (12) (a) Can the Minister explain why the funding for the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of parents' increases each financial year to \$163 million in 2007-08 and then falls to just \$2.2 million in 2008-09; and (b) what are the reasons for such a dramatic drop in funding for this initiative in 2008-09.
- (13) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W158, relating to the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of the mature aged', the department has provided figures showing net additional estimated program costs that total \$71.3 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (14) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W158, the department has provided figures showing estimated net payment savings that total \$18.6 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (15) Can the Minister confirm that the budget paper shows a net additional saving of \$5.6 million over the 4 financial years to 2008-09, or a saving of \$1.5 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.

- (16) Can the Minister explain the discrepancy between the figures provided in W158, which show a net cost of \$52.7 million (total of (13) and (14) above) in relation to the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of the mature aged' for the 3 financial years to 2008-09 and the net savings of \$1.5 million as provided in the budget paper over the same period.
- (17) Do the funding figures in the budget paper include other funding items beyond those identified in W158; if so: (a) can these be identified; and (b) what is the value of each of these items in each financial year from 2005-06 to 2008-09.
- (18) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W159, relating to the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of the very long term unemployed' the department has provided figures showing net additional estimated program costs that total \$310.6 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (19) Can the Minister confirm that in response to W159, the department has provided figures showing estimated net additional costs that total \$34.7 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (20) Can the Minister confirm that the budget paper shows a net additional saving of \$359.9 million over the 4 financial years to 2008-09, or a saving of \$355.2 million over the 3 financial years to 2008-09.
- (21) Can the Minister explain the discrepancy between the figures provided in W159, which show a net cost of \$345.3 million (total of (18) and (19) above) in relation to the initiative entitled 'Increasing participation of the very long term unemployed' for the 3 financial years to 2008-09 and the net savings of \$355.2 million as provided in the budget paper over the same period.
- (22) Do the funding figures in the budget paper include other funding items beyond those identified in W159; if so: (a) can these be identified; and (b) what is the value of each of these items for each financial year from 2005-06 to 2008-09.

1419 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) The Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) is currently considering changes to the regulation of mortgage risk: (a) is APRA seeking to differentiate between how big banks and small banks manage residential mortgage risk; if so, why; and (b) is the risk the same, regardless of the size of the bank in question.
- (2) (a) Is APRA considering differentiating the risk weighting of residential mortgage risk; if so, why; and (b) will this reduce the motivation by banks to diversify such risks across specialist risk insurers such as Lenders Mortgage Insurance providers; if not, why not.
- (3) With reference to the changes currently under consideration by APRA on residential mortgage risk insurance: (a) will these changes encourage large banks in Australia to self-insure their residential mortgage risk; if not, why not; and (b) why is this a desirable outcome.
- (4) Under the changes proposed by APRA, could an unintended consequence be that the big banks will garner a very substantial competitive advantage over the smaller banks, building societies and credit unions; if not, why not.

- (5) Has APRA done a full and complete assessment of the long-term implications of the changes that are proposed under the Basel II accord, including detailed financial modelling of extraneous shocks to the Australian banking system; if so, what are the results of these findings.
- (6) (a) How might small and community banks be affected by implementing Basel II; (b) if they are put at a competitive disadvantage, how does APRA plan to change the current domestic capital rules without increasing the burden on those smaller institutions; and (c) will risk-based pricing be introduced into the Australian residential mortgage market in the future as a result of the changes under consideration by APRA pertaining to Basel II; if so, how.
- (7) (a) Will the current APRA proposals introduce market distortions and in so doing, create a competitive pricing advantage for some participants; (b) would this lead to predatory pricing by some participants, particularly Australia's largest banks, which are all arguably advantaged by the aforementioned proposals.

1420 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has the Government made arrangements, or entered into any agreements, to ensure that Australian citizens will not be inappropriately treated and/or inconvenienced if the chip in an Australian ePassport malfunctions or fails when an Australian citizen is attempting to enter or leave Australia or another country; if so, what are the provisions of those arrangements and/or agreements.
- (2) Has the Government taken any steps of a technological or other nature to ensure that additional information/data cannot be added onto the chip in an Australian ePassport (e.g. into any empty space left on the chip), either with or without the passport holder's knowledge, after the passport has initially been issued; if so, what steps have been taken.
- (3) Does the Australian ePassport use the basic access control mechanism (as referred to in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) specifications) to protect against remote skimming of, and eavesdropping on, the data on the chip by unauthorised readers.
- (4) Does the Australian ePassport use the active authentication mechanism (as referred to in the ICAO specifications) to protect against chip substitution and cloning of a chip.
- (5) With reference to the ICAO Passport Specification (Doc 9303) June 2005 Supplement statements that '[t]he e-passport may serve as a "beacon" in which the chip emits when initially activated data (the UID number) that might allow identification of the issuing authority' and that some issuers wish to implement random UIDs due to 'concerns about data privacy and the possibility to trace persons due to fixed numbers' and that 'The use of random UIDs is RECOMMENDED, but States MAY choose to apply unique UIDs' (emphasis in original): (a) does the chip in Australian ePassports emit a random UID, or a fixed UID, when initially activated; if random UIDs are not being used in Australian ePassports, why not; (b) does the UID (whether random or fixed) emitted by Australian ePassports include data that: (i) might allow identification of the issuing authority (i.e. the Australian Government), (ii) disclose that the chip is in an Australian ePassport, or (iii) disclose that the chip is in an ePassport; and (c) if the Australian ePassport chip uses a fixed UID, or the

UID includes data that might allow identification of the issuing authority or discloses that the chip is in an ePassport, does the ePassport have metal fibres in the cover or any other means of preventing the UID from being emitted and read while the passport booklet is closed; if not, why not.

1421 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—

- (1) (a) Can the Minister confirm that on 4 October 2005, the office of the Minister for Trade received a Freedom of Information (FOI) request seeking access to a letter concerning broadband pricing, written by the Minister to the National Farmers' Federation (NFF).
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Minister for Trade has failed to respond to this request.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that section 15 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* requires the Minister for Trade to notify an applicant of a decision in relation to an FOI request within 30 days of receiving that request.
- (4) Can the Minister explain why the Minister for Trade has failed to comply with the requirements of the Act in relation to the request for access to the NFF letter.
- (5) Can the Minister advise the Senate when the Minister for Trade intends to respond to the FOI request.

1422 **Senator Chapman:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to comments made by the Chairman of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA), Dr John Laker, to the Economics Legislation Committee during estimates hearings on 2 November 2005:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that APRA is proceeding with the implementation of the Basel II prudential and capital accord in the Australian financial services sector, yet has publicly stated that it is unable, at this stage, to accurately assess the 'real-life' impact of these fundamental changes on the lending market for residential mortgages, in terms of mortgage pricing and the availability of housing finance.
- (2) Why is APRA, as a statutory authority, able to proceed with the full implementation of this accord in the absence of any comprehensive and documented analysis that identifies the full set of its economic and financial sector ramifications and without a level of public scrutiny.
- (3) Has APRA made a full and complete assessment of the long-term implications of the changes that are proposed under the Basel II accord, using real-life examples of what would happen if the economy received a sharp exogenous shock.
- (4) If such an analysis exists for the Australian context, whether within APRA or another arm of Government, will the Minister make this publicly available in the near term before the full implementation of Basel II is completed.
- (5) (a) Is the Minister aware that one of the likely ramifications of the APRA Basel II implementation will be to limit the ability of smaller financial institutions (lenders) to make housing finance available at competitive rates; and (b) will this provide a competitive advantage for the major banks.

- (6) (a) Is the Minister aware that the Basel II reforms progressively being implemented by APRA effectively will penalise lending institutions which seek to use risk mitigants such as Lenders Mortgage Insurance (LMI) to diversify the risk of their residential mortgage portfolio by limiting the capital concessions available to lenders who avail themselves of this risk offset mechanism; and (b) is this counter-intuitive at a point in the housing cycle where appropriate risk mitigation by housing finance lenders would seem to be highly desirable.
- (7) Is the Minister aware that these changes may provide an opportunity for the major banks to 'self-insure' their mortgage portfolio risk rather than seek risk mitigation through either LMI or other risk mitigating instruments.
- (8) Is it a likely consequence that interest and other costs will rise for borrowers who use smaller lending institutions which rely on mortgage securitisation to facilitate residential mortgage lending (which in turn can only be made available if the mortgage is insured through LMI or an equivalent).
- (9) Is the Minister aware that three jurisdictions (the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the European Union) are undertaking, or about to commence, reviews of the practical, real-life implications of the Basel II accord and may amend its full implementation to suit specific sovereign requirements.
- (10) Will the Minister seek to coordinate the key financial regulators and economic policy advisors to ensure that the implementation of Basel II in Australia enshrines the fundamental need to diversify residential mortgage risk so that Australia's financial system stability can be assured.
- (11) Will the Minister outline the processes for consultation between the peak regulators and the financial services sector in order to ensure this level of market stability and the mechanisms by which this consultation can be made completely transparent and accountable.

Notice given 5 December 2005

1423 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) The Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency makes a number of 'support contact visits unannounced' (spot checks), which can be 'targeted' or 'random' and, in 2002-03 there were 242 spot checks, in 2003-04 there were 553, and in 2004-05 there were 563; for each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05 how many of these spot checks were: (a) targeted; and (b) random.
- (2) For each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05, how many aged care facilities received spot checks and were given notice of: (a) less than one day; (b) one day; (c) 2 days; (d) 3 days; (e) 4 days; (f) 5 days; (g) 6 days; (h) 7 days; and (i) more than 7 days.
- (3) Were all the 'targeted' spot checks undertaken as a result of complaints; if so, can a breakdown be provided of the nature of the complaints (e.g. care, nutrition, accommodation issues etc.).

1424 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—As at December 2005, what is the number, by electorate, of: (a) allocated and operational residential aged care places; (b) allocated and operational community aged care packages; and (c) allocated and operational extended aged care at home packages.

- 1425 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—As at June 2005, and broken down by electorate, what was the number of: (a) allocated and operational residential aged care places; (b) allocated and operational community aged care packages; and (c) allocated and operational extended aged care at home packages.
- 1426 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) Given the deadline for the conditional adjustment payment audited financial reporting requirement was 31 October 2005, can a list be provided, at the ‘approved provider level’ and the ‘individual service level’, indicating: (a) each provider that complied with the conditional adjustment payment reporting requirement; and (b) those providers that did not comply.
 - (2) Which providers: (a) have complied; (b) were given an ‘approved alternative financial period’; (c) were given an ‘exemption’; and (d) were non-compliant.
 - (3) (a) Why were exemptions given; and (b) can a list be provided of exempted providers and the reason given for the request for an exemption.
 - (4) Given that the reports for the conditional adjustment payment 2004-05 Annual Notice for Financial Reporting were to be sent to the C/O Forms Administration, Department of Health and Ageing, how are the reports processed upon receipt.
 - (5) On receipt, how is confidentiality of the information ensured.
 - (6) How will the Government respond to those providers which have not provided the audited financial reports by 31 October 2005.
 - (7) How will information be provided from KPMG to the department.
 - (8) Will the financial data be publicly available; if so, in what form.
 - (9) How will prospective residents and their families be able to access financial reports of aged care facilities in which they are considering becoming a resident.
 - (10) (a) How will the potential residents and their families be advised that they have the right to view financial reports; and (b) can potential residents seek advice about financial records from, for example, a financial advisor or accountant.
- 1427 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What was the process that resulted in the decision that the magazine, *Bush Buzz*, should no longer be eligible for funding by the department, and what were the reasons for that decision.
 - (2) Was a copy of *Bush Buzz* examined by the department in making this decision.
 - (3) What representations has Senator Scullion made to the Minister and/or the department in regards to *Bush Buzz*.
 - (4) (a) How much funding was provided by the department to *Bush Buzz* to allow the printing of three further editions; (b) were any conditions attached to the provision of further funding by the department; and (c) what representations did Senator Scullion make to the Minister and/or the department in regards to this specific issue.

- (5) (a) From which pool of funding was money drawn to allow *Bush Buzz* to print three further editions; and (b) can *Bush Buzz* continue to be funded from this pool of funds.
- (6) Which applicants from rural, remote or isolated locations have been successful in their application for funding under the Child Care Community Support Payments (Sustainability Program).
- (7) Has *Bush Buzz* been considered for funding under the New Child Care Support Program or any other programs; if so, what were the reasons given.
- (8) Are there other programs from which *Bush Buzz* may be eligible to receive funding; if so, can details be provided of these programs and funding arrangements.

Notice given 6 December 2005

1428 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that: (a) at 4 pm on 5 December 2005, a group of Eden-Monaro constituents attended a meeting with their local member, Mr Gary Nairn, to discuss the Government's industrial relations changes; and (b) also present at the meeting were the Member for Goldstein (Mr Robb) and two government lawyers.
- (2) (a) Was the presence of the two lawyers at the request of Mr Nairn or Mr Robb; and (b) who decided that it was appropriate that government lawyers would be present at this meeting.
- (3) Can the Minister provide details of the government lawyers present at the 5 December 2005 meeting, including: (a) their names; (b) their job titles and job descriptions; (c) the capacity in which they were at this meeting; and (d) the government agency and/or workplace in which they are employed.
- (4) Were either of the government lawyers involved, directly or indirectly, in any drafting, preparation or work on the Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Bill 2005; if so, what was the extent of this involvement.
- (5) Can the Minister provide details, including the date and attendees, of any other meetings between coalition members and senators and their constituents that have had government lawyers in attendance.

Notice given 7 December 2005

*1429 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to page 68 of the Indigenous Business Australia's (IBA) annual report for 2004-05, which lists the major economic development initiatives funded by the IBA and states that \$610 968 was granted to Hillsong Emerge to conduct economic development activities in Redfern and Mount Druitt, which included operating enterprise hubs, and building the confidence of young Indigenous women to enter the workforce or create small business opportunities:

- (1) (a) What was the date of Hillsong Emerge's application for funding and when was the grant approved; and (b) what was the amount of funding requested.

- (2) (a) Under which program was this funding application made; (b) what was the deadline for applications; (c) how many applications were received; (d) who assessed the applications; (e) did the Minister receive any advice in relation to the applications; if so, when was it received; (f) what was the nature and extent of the Minister's involvement in the assessment and decision-making process; (g) were the IBA directors advised on the major grants; and (h) did the majority of director's approve all major grants.
- (3) On what dates did the initiative start and end.
- (4) For each of the enterprise hubs: (a) where is the hub located; (b) what services are available; (c) when did the hub begin operating and if applicable, when did it end; (d) for each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, how many Indigenous clients have been assisted; and (e) how many Indigenous entrepreneurs became self-employed as a result of the hub.
- (5) With reference to building the confidence of young Indigenous women to enter the workforce or create small business opportunities: (a) which programs were administered, or will be administered, to achieve this aim; (b) what activities are involved in the programs; (c) on what date did the programs start and end; (d) how long do the programs last; (e) how many young Indigenous women are involved in these programs; (f) what is the age group of these women; and (g) where did these programs take place.
- (6) (a) How many Indigenous people work as part of this initiative; and (b) is their remuneration sourced from this grant.
- (7) How many Hillsong Emerge staff have been, or are, remunerated from this funding initiative.
- (8) With reference to \$610 968 of funding: (a) over what period of time is this funding to be spent; (b) what is the amount of money allocated for: (i) Hillsong Emerge's staff, and (ii) administration costs, including, but not limited to, project coordinators' wages/superannuation, contract management, administration/reception, information technology/communications, insurance, audit and evaluation; (c) what was the amount of money allocated for each program, including the name of each program; (d) what were the amounts spent on administration costs for each program; (e) what is the amount of any new funding for this initiative in the 2005-06 financial year, broken down as in (a) and (b) above.
- (9) Have any evaluations of the initiative been conducted to date; if so: (a) when did the evaluations take place; (b) who conducted the evaluations; (c) which programs under the initiative were evaluated; (d) what were the performance indicators; (e) was any feedback from the Indigenous clients and community sought as part of these evaluations; if so, can evaluation reports in relation to this initiative be provided.
- (10) (a) How many applications for funding were received by IBA in relation to economic development in Redfern or Mount Druitt by parties other than Hillsong Emerge; and (b) can the dates of the applications and the names of the applicants be provided.

*1430 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to page 68 of the Indigenous Business Australia's (IBA) annual report for 2004-05, which lists the major economic development initiatives funded by the IBA and also states that First Australians Business (FAB) Ltd received \$205 000 'to create a national database of business mentors that can provide services to Indigenous small business aspirants on a volunteer basis and appropriately link workshop participants to small business mentors':

- (1) On what date did FAB begin the project to create a national database of business mentors.
- (2) How has FAB attracted business mentors to the database.
- (3) To date, how many business mentors are on this database.
- (4) How many 'link-ups' between business mentors and Indigenous small business aspirants have occurred.
- (5) (a) Under which program was the funding application made; (b) what was the deadline for applications; (c) how many applications were received; (d) who assessed the applications; (e) did the Minister receive any advice in relation to the applications; if so, when was it received; (f) what was the nature and extent of the Minister's involvement in the assessment and decision-making process; (g) were the IBA directors advised on the major grants; and (h) did the majority of directors approve all major grants.
- (6) (a) What was the date or dates of FAB's application for funding; (b) on what date was the grant approved; and (c) what was the amount requested in the funding application/proposal.
- (7) (a) How many FAB staff are paid out of the \$205 000 grant; and (b) are they full-time or part-time.
- (8) (a) How many Indigenous people work on this initiative; (b) do they work for FAB or are they otherwise remunerated from the funding grant; and (c) do they work full-time or part-time.
- (9) With reference to the \$205 000 of funding: (a) over what period of time is this funding to be spent; (b) what is the amount of money allocated for: (i) FAB's staff, and (ii) administration costs, including, but not limited to, project coordinators' wages/superannuation, contract management, administration/reception, information technology/communications, insurance, audit and evaluation; (c) in relation to (9) (b) above, what is the amount of money spent to date; and (d) what are the amounts of any new funding to this initiative for 2005-06 financial year, broken down into administration costs and administered funds.
- (10) Have any evaluations of the initiative been conducted to date; if so: (a) when and where did the evaluations take place; (b) who conducted the evaluations; (c) what were the performance indicators; and (d) was any feedback from the Indigenous clients and community sought as part of these evaluations; if so, can any evaluation reports in relation to this initiative be provided.
- (11) If no evaluations conducted to date, when is the expected start date and reporting date for evaluations.

*1431 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to page 68 of the Indigenous Business Australia's (IBA) annual report for 2004-05, which lists the major economic development initiatives funded by the IBA and also states that the IBA granted \$965 421 to Hillsong Emerge 'to pilot the provision of small loans to Indigenous entrepreneurs in Sydney (urban), Northern New South Wales (regional) and Cape York (remote)' and that the IBA also granted an additional \$280 000 in loan funds:

- (1) Did Hillsong Emerge submit a funding application to obtain the grant of \$965 421; if so: (a) under which program was the application made; (b) when and where was the invitation for tender advertised; (c) did the department advertise any specific request for tenders on micro-credit pilots; if so, when did it advertise this request; (d) when was the deadline for applications; (e) how many other applications relating to micro-credit projects were there; (f) did any banks express any interest in conducting a micro-credit project; if so, which banks; (g) what was the total number of applications received; (h) who assessed the applications; (i) did the Minister receive any advice in relation to the applications; if so, when was the advice received; (j) what was the nature and extent of the Minister's involvement in the assessment and decision-making process; (k) were the IBA directors advised on the major grants; and (l) did the majority of directors approve all major grants.
- (2) With reference to Hillsong Emerge's funding application for this initiative: (a) what was the date or dates of Hillsong Emerge's application for funding; (b) on what date was the grant approved; (c) what was the amount requested in the funding application/proposal.
- (3) Which communities are participating in the pilot.
- (4) For each of the three sites, what is the start and end date of the pilot scheme.
- (5) What size loan is categorised as a small loan and can a range of specific figures be provided.
- (6) For what are small loans most used in these communities and can examples be provided.
- (7) How is Hillsong Emerge facilitating the provision of small loans to Indigenous entrepreneurs in these three pilot sites.
- (8) What are the names of any community programs that are being funded by this grant.
- (9) Has Hillsong Emerge established offices in these three sites to administer this initiative.
- (10) Does Hillsong Emerge offer these micro-credit services through their IBA-funded enterprise hubs located in Redfern and Mount Druitt.
- (11) (a) How many Hillsong Emerge staff work on this initiative; (b) how many of those staff are remunerated from the above grant; (c) do staff work full-time or part-time; and (d) in which office are they based.
- (12) (a) How many local Indigenous people work on this initiative; (b) do they work full-time or part-time; and (c) are they are remunerated from the above funding grant.
- (13) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, how many small loans have been approved in each of the three sites.

- (14) (a) What interest do Indigenous people, participating in the scheme, pay on this loan; and (b) what, if any, conditions are placed on the loan.
- (15) With reference to the funding of \$965 421: (a) over what period of time is this funding to be spent; (b) what is the amount of money allocated for: (i) Hillsong Emerge's staff, and (ii) administration costs, including, but not limited to, project coordinators' wages/superannuation, contract management, administration/reception, information technology/communications, insurance, audit and evaluation; (c) what is the amount of money allocated to each pilot site; and (d) for each pilot site: (i) what is the amount of money that will be administered in loans, and (ii) for the 2005-06 financial year, what are the amounts for any new funding to this initiative broken down as in (15)(b), (c) and (d) above.
- (16) Have any evaluations of the initiative been conducted to date; if so: (a) when and where did the evaluations take place; (b) who conducted the evaluations; (c) what were the performance indicators; (d) was any feedback from the Indigenous clients and community sought as part of the evaluations; if so, can any evaluation reports in relation to this initiative be provided.
- (17) If no evaluations were conducted to date, when is the expected start date and reporting date for evaluations.

*1432 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to page 68 of the Indigenous Business Australia's (IBA) annual report for 2004-05, which lists the major economic development initiatives funded by the IBA and also states that First Australians Business Ltd (FAB) received \$600 000 to 'conduct 26 three-day Enterprise Development Workshops throughout Australia and provide information to Indigenous business aspirants on the steps necessary to get into business and link them with available or appropriate business support services':

- (1) (a) What was the date or dates of FAB's application for funding and when was the grant approved; and (b) what was the amount requested in the funding application/proposal.
- (2) (a) Under which program was this funding application made; (b) when were the grants and tender advertised; (c) where was it advertised; (d) what was the deadline for applications; (e) how many applications were received; (f) how many applications specifically related to business development support; (g) who assessed the applications; (h) did the Minister receive any advice in relation to the applications; if so, when was the advice received; (i) what was the nature and extent of the Minister's involvement in the assessment and decision-making process; (j) were the IBA directors advised on the major grants; and (k) did the majority of directors approve all major grants; if not, which ones were not approved.
- (3) (a) How many FAB staff are paid under the grant; and (b) do they work full-time or part-time.
- (4) (a) How many Indigenous people work on this initiative; (b) do these Indigenous people work for FAB or are they otherwise remunerated from the funding grant; and (c) do they work full-time or part-time.
- (5) Are the presenters of the workshops Indigenous; if so, what percentage of the workshop presenters are Indigenous.

- (6) (a) Where was each workshop located, in chronological order; (b) how many people attended each workshop; and (c) how many requests for business mentoring arose from each workshop.
- (7) With reference to the funding of \$600 000: (a) over what period of time is this funding is to be spent; (b) what is the amount of money allocated for: (i) FAB's staff, and (ii) administration costs, including, but not limited to, project coordinators' wages/superannuation, contract management, administration/reception, information technology/communications, insurance, audit and evaluation; (c) in relation to (7)(b) above, what is the amount of money spent to date; (d) what is the average amount of money spent holding one of the 3-day workshops; if there is variation in the workshop costs, what is the most expensive workshop and the location of that workshop; and (e) what are the amounts of any new funding to this initiative for the 2005-06 financial year, broken down as in (7)(a), (b) and (c) above.
- (8) Have any evaluations of the initiative been conducted to date; if so: (a) when and where did the evaluations take place; (b) who conducted the evaluations; (c) what were the performance indicators; and (d) was any feedback from the Indigenous clients and community sought as part of the evaluations; if so, can any evaluation reports in relation to this initiative be provided.
- (9) If no evaluations were conducted to date, when is the expected start date and reporting date of evaluations.

*1433 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What arrangements are in place to enable detainees to use the grassed recreation area during the construction of the extension to the Maribyrnong Detention Centre.
 - (2) If this area is not available during construction, what other arrangements are in place for outdoor activities during this period.
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ORDERS OF THE SENATE

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Amendments of standing orders

1 Questions on notice

Standing order 74(5) is amended to read as follows:

- (5) If a minister does not answer a question on notice asked by a senator within 30 days of the asking of that question, or if a question taken on notice during a hearing of a legislation committee considering estimates remains unanswered 30 days after the day set for answering the question, and a minister does not, within that period, provide to the senator who asked the question an explanation satisfactory to that senator of why an answer has not yet been provided:
- (a) at the conclusion of question time on any day after that period, the senator may ask the relevant minister for such an explanation; and
 - (b) the senator may, at the conclusion of the explanation, move without notice – That the Senate take note of the explanation; or
 - (c) in the event that the minister does not provide an explanation, the senator may, without notice, move a motion with regard to the minister’s failure to provide either an answer or an explanation.

(Agreed to 9 November 2005 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Procedure Committee in its second report of 2005.)

2 Order for the production of documents

Standing order 164 is amended by inserting a new paragraph (3) as follows:

- (3) If a minister does not comply with an order for the production of documents, directed to the minister, within 30 days after the date specified for compliance with the order, and does not, within that period, provide to the Senate an explanation of why the order has not been complied with which the Senate resolves is satisfactory:
- (a) at the conclusion of question time on each and any day after that period, a senator may ask the relevant minister for such an explanation; and
 - (b) the senator may, at the conclusion of the explanation, move without notice —That the Senate take note of the explanation; or

- (c) in the event that the minister does not provide an explanation, the senator may, without notice, move a motion in relation to the minister's failure to provide either an answer or an explanation.

(Agreed to 9 November 2005 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Procedure Committee in its second report of 2005.)

Committees

3 Allocation of departments

Departments and agencies are allocated to the legislative and general purpose standing committees as follows:

Community Affairs

Family and Community Services
Health and Ageing

Economics

Treasury
Industry, Tourism and Resources

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education

Employment and Workplace Relations
Education, Science and Training

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Environment and Heritage
Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Finance and Public Administration

Parliament
Prime Minister and Cabinet
Finance and Administration
Human Services

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Foreign Affairs and Trade
Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Legal and Constitutional

Attorney-General
Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Transport and Regional Services
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

(1 May 1996, amended 2 September 1997, 21 October 1997, 11 November 1998, 8 February 2001, 13 February 2002 and 17 November 2004.)

4 Estimates—Answers to questions

That answers be provided by 31 January 2005 to:

- (a) estimates questions on notice lodged with legislation committees in the course of the estimates hearings in May and June 2004; and
(b) estimates questions on notice lodged with legislation committees by 2 December 2004.

(Agreed to 18 November 2004.)

5 Estimates hearings

- (1) That estimates hearings by legislation committees for 2005 be scheduled as follows:

2004-05 additional estimates:

Monday, 14 February and Tuesday, 15 February and, if required, Friday, 18 February (*Group A*)

Wednesday, 16 February and Thursday, 17 February and, if required, Friday, 18 February (*Group B*)

2005-06 Budget estimates:

Monday, 23 May to Thursday, 26 May and, if required, Friday, 27 May (*Group A*)

Monday, 30 May to Thursday, 2 June and, if required, Friday, 3 June (*Group B*)

Monday, 31 October and Tuesday, 1 November (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)

Wednesday, 2 November and Thursday, 3 November (*supplementary hearings—Group B*).

- (2) That the committees consider the proposed expenditure in accordance with the allocation of departments to committees agreed to by the Senate.
- (3) That committees meet in the following groups:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Finance and Public Administration

Legal and Constitutional

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Group B:

Community Affairs

Economics

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

- (4) That the committees report to the Senate on the following dates:
 Tuesday, 15 March 2005 in respect of the 2004-05 additional estimates; and
 Monday, 20 June 2005 in respect of the 2005-06 Budget estimates.

(*Agreed to 10 February 2005.*)

6 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet

That the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade be authorised to hold private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sittings of the Senate.

(*Agreed to 6 December 2004.*)

7 Privileges—Standing Committee—Adoption of 94th report recommendation

That the Senate authorise the President, if required, to engage counsel as *amicus curiae* if either the action for defamation against Mr David Armstrong or a similar action against Mr William O'Chee is set down for trial.

(Agreed to 4 September 2000.)

8 Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings

That the following order operate as a sessional order:

- (1) The Senate confirms that any disclosure of evidence or documents submitted to a committee, of documents prepared by a committee, or of deliberations of a committee, without the approval of the committee or of the Senate, may be treated by the Senate as a contempt.
- (2) The Senate reaffirms its resolution of 20 June 1996, relating to procedures to be followed by committees in cases of unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings.
- (3) The Senate provides the following guidelines to be observed by committees in applying that resolution, and declares that the Senate will observe the guidelines in determining whether to refer a matter to the Committee of Privileges:
 1. Unless there are particular circumstances involving actual or potential substantial interference with the work of a committee or of the Senate, the following kinds of unauthorised disclosure should not be raised as matters of privilege:
 - (a) disclosure of a committee report in the time between the substantial conclusion of the committee's deliberations on the report and its presentation to the Senate;
 - (b) disclosure of other documents prepared by a committee and not published by the committee, where the committee would have published them, or could appropriately have published them, in any event, or where they contain only research or publicly-available material, or where their disclosure is otherwise inconsequential;
 - (c) disclosure of documents and evidence submitted to a committee and not published by the committee, where the committee would have published them, or could appropriately have published them, in any event;
 - (d) disclosure of private deliberations of a committee where the freedom of the committee to deliberate is unlikely to be significantly affected.
 2. The following kinds of unauthorised disclosure are those for which the contempt jurisdiction of the Senate should primarily be reserved, and which should therefore be raised as matters of privilege:
 - (a) disclosure of documents or evidence submitted to a committee where the committee has deliberately decided to treat the documents or evidence as in camera material, for the protection of witnesses or others, or because disclosure would otherwise be harmful to the public interest;
 - (b) disclosure of documents prepared by a committee where that involves disclosure of material of the kind specified in paragraph (a);

- (c) disclosure of private deliberations of a committee where that involves disclosure of that kind of material, or significantly impedes the committee's freedom to deliberate.
3. An unauthorised disclosure not falling into the categories in guidelines 1 and 2 should not be raised as a matter of privilege unless it involves actual or potential substantial interference with the work of a committee or of the Senate.
 4. When considering any unauthorised disclosure of material in the possession of a committee, the committee should consider whether there was any substantive reason for not publishing that material.
- (4) Before deciding to raise a matter of privilege involving possible unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings, any committee may seek the guidance of the Committee of Privileges as to whether a matter should be pursued. If the committee decides that such a matter should be raised, it must consult with the Committee of Privileges before taking the matter further.
 - (5) When applying this resolution a committee shall have regard to the matters set out in paragraphs 3.43 to 3.59 of the 122nd Report of the Committee of Privileges, June 2005.

(Agreed to 6 October 2005 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Procedure Committee in its first report of 2005.)

Meeting of Senate

9 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2004 and 2005 be as follows:

Spring sittings (2004):

Tuesday, 16 November to Thursday, 18 November
 Monday, 29 November to Thursday, 2 December
 Monday, 6 December to Thursday, 9 December

Summer sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 8 February to Thursday, 10 February

Autumn sittings (2005):

Monday, 7 March to Thursday, 10 March
 Monday, 14 March to Thursday, 17 March

Budget sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 10 May to Thursday, 12 May

Winter sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 14 June to Thursday, 16 June
 Monday, 20 June to Thursday, 23 June

Spring sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 9 August to Thursday, 11 August
 Tuesday, 16 August to Thursday, 18 August
 Monday, 5 September to Thursday, 8 September
 Monday, 12 September to Thursday, 15 September
 Tuesday, 4 October to Thursday, 6 October
 Monday, 10 October to Thursday, 13 October

Spring sittings (2) (2005):

Monday, 7 November to Thursday, 10 November

Monday, 28 November to Thursday, 1 December.

(Agreed to 17 November 2004; amended 10 August 2005.)

10 Divisions on Thursday—Temporary order

That the following order operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2005 sittings:

If a division is called for on Thursday after 4.30 pm, the matter before the Senate shall be adjourned until the next day of sitting at a time fixed by the Senate.

(Agreed to 9 February 2005.)

11 Adjournment debate on Tuesdays—Temporary order

That the following order operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2005 sittings:

On the question for the adjournment of the Senate on Tuesday, a senator who has spoken once subject to the time limit of 10 minutes may speak again for not more than 10 minutes if no other senator who has not already spoken once wishes to speak, provided that a senator may by leave speak for not more than 20 minutes on one occasion.

(Agreed to 9 February 2005.)

12 Days and hours of meeting and routine of business—Variation

That—

- (a) the Senate meet from Monday, 5 December 2005 to Thursday, 8 December 2005; and
- (b) on each sitting Tuesday until the end of the 2005 sittings:
 - (i) the hours of meeting shall be 12.30 pm to 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm to 11.40 pm,
 - (ii) the routine of business from 7.30 pm shall be government business only, and
 - (iii) the question for the adjournment of the Senate shall be proposed at 11 pm.

(Agreed to 8 November 2005.)

13 Days and hours of meeting and routine of business—Variation

That—

- (1) On Thursday, 1 December and 8 December 2005:
 - (a) the hours of meeting shall be 9.30 am to 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm to 11.40 pm;
 - (b) the routine of business from 7.30 pm shall be government business only;
 - (c) divisions may take place after 4.30 pm; and
 - (d) the question for the adjournment of the Senate shall be proposed at 11 pm.

- (2) The Senate shall sit on Friday, 2 December and 9 December 2005 and that:
- (a) the hours of meeting shall be 9.30 am to 3.30 pm;
 - (b) the routine of business shall be:
 - (i) notices of motion, and
 - (ii) government business only; and
 - (c) the Senate shall adjourn without any question being put.

(Agreed to 28 November 2005.)

Orders for production of documents

14 Trade—Free trade agreement—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, no later than 4 pm on Tuesday, 7 December 2004, the final letters and any attachments and annexures exchanged between the governments of Australia and the United States of America (US) to finalise the free trade agreement between Australia and the US.

(Motion of Senator Nettle agreed to 2 December 2004.)

15 Foreign Affairs—Gallipoli—Road works—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, no later than Thursday, 12 May 2005, all briefings to the Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, on the matter of road works at Gallipoli over the past 4 years, and all internal minutes and file notes, including records of meetings between the Office of Australian War Graves and officials of the Government of Turkey on the same subject.

(Motion of Senator Bishop agreed to 11 May 2005.)

16 Family and Community Services—Housing Assistance agreements—Order for production of documents

- (1) That the Senate:
- (a) notes that the Housing Assistance (Form of Agreement) Determination 2003 in Schedule 1, subsections 4(33) to 4(36) requires states to report on expenditure and progress towards their respective bilateral agreements to the Commonwealth within 6 months after the end of each grant year;
 - (b) orders that there be laid on the table, no later than 3.30 pm on 12 May 2005, all reports provided by the states and territories to the Commonwealth under those provisions for the financial year 2003-04; and
 - (c) orders that all reports provided by the states and territories to the Commonwealth under those provisions be tabled in the Senate within 5 sittings days, or one calendar month, after receipt (whichever is the later), and that the Senate be notified in writing by the Minister for Family and Community Services within 5 sitting days of the expiration of the 6 months if reports have not been provided within the required 6 months.

- (2) That this order is of continuing effect.

(Motion of Senator Bartlett agreed to 12 May 2005.)

17 Environment—Tasmania—Proposed pulp mill—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, no later than 3.30 pm on 16 June 2005, all correspondence from January 2002 to the present between the Minister, his staff and department and Gunns Pty Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill in Tasmania.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 12 May 2005.)

18 Environment—Tasmania—Proposed pulp mill—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, no later than 3.30 pm on 22 June 2005, all correspondence from January 2002 to the present between the Prime Minister, his staff and department and Gunns Pty Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill in Tasmania.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 14 June 2005.)

19 Law and Justice—Airport security—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Justice and Customs, no later than 5 pm on Monday, 20 June 2005, copies of all reports prepared by the Australian Customs Service since 1 January 2004 which refer to issues of airport security, including the report completed in September 2004, referred to on page 1 of *The Australian* on 31 May 2005 ('Airport staff "smuggling drugs"'), other than material specifically relating to current ongoing investigations.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) agreed to 20 June 2005.)

20 Taxation—Deductible gift recipient status—Environment groups—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, no later than 3.30 pm on Wednesday, 22 June 2005, all correspondence between the Minister and the Assistant Treasurer, the Australian Taxation Office, or the Institute of Public Affairs in 2004 and 2005 relating to the issue of deductible gift recipient status of environment groups.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 21 June 2005.)

Orders for production of documents still current from previous parliaments

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
25.10.1995	Administrative decision-making—Effect of international instruments	Minister representing the Attorney-General
13.05.1998	Waterfront reform	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Development (Senator Alston); Minister representing the Minister for Workplace Relations and Small Business (Senator Alston); and Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
07.03.2000	Environment—Queensland—Tree clearing	Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Hill)
03.04.2000	Aged care—Riverside Nursing Home	Minister representing the Minister for Aged Care
27.06.2000	Tax reform—Petrol pricing	Assistant Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
09.11.2000	Environment—Tasmania	Minister representing the Minister for Sport and Tourism (Senator Minchin)
04.12.2000	Taxation—Opinion polls	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
05.03.2001	Taxation	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
23.05.2001	HIH Insurance	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
24.05.2001	Workplace relations	Minister representing the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
09.08.2001	Foreign Affairs—Japanese fishing boats	Minister representing the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Trade
21.08.2001	Transport—Black Spot Project	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
23.08.2001	Environment—Great Barrier Reef—Water quality control	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
19.09.2001	Transport—Ansett Australia	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
20.09.2001	Transport—Ansett Australia	Minister representing the Prime Minister
19.06.2002	Mining—Christmas Island	
24.06.2002	Superannuation system	

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
25.06.2002	Finance—Retirement and income modelling	
27.06.2002	Health—Tobacco	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
20.08.2002	Animal Welfare—Cattle	
28.08.2002	Superannuation Working Group	
11.11.2002	Environment—Queensland—Nathan Dam	
14.11.2002	Trade—General Agreement on Trade in Services	Minister representing the Minister for Trade
18.11.2002	Environment—Oceans policy	
19.11.2002	Superannuation—Insurance and Superannuation Commission	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Minchin) and the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan)
10.12.2002	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer	
11.12.2002	Environment—Tasmania—Logging	Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
12.12.2002	Science and Technology—Genetically-modified food	Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs and representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
05.02.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
05.02.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
05.03.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
25.03.2003	Immigration—Illegal migration	
14.05.2003	Environment—Radioactive waste—National store	Minister representing the Minister for Science
14.05.2003	Industry—Basslink	
19.06.2003	Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme—Draft regulations	
17.09.2003	Animal Welfare—Live sheep export	The Government
08.10.2003	Health—National Drug Research Strategy	Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
13.10.2003	Immigration—Management of detention centres	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
13.10.003	Finance—Calculation of the IBNR levy	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
14.10.2003	Animal Welfare—Live sheep export	
16.10.2003	Environment—Sepon Mine	Minister representing the Minister for Trade (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Education—Higher education—Regional impact statement	Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
25.11.2003	Finance—Deposit bonds	
01.12.2003	Taxation—First home owners, 'bracket creep' and Intergeneration Report	Minister representing the Treasurer
03.12.2003	Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	
03.12.2003	Environment—Sepon mine	
10.02.2003	Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
24.03.2004	Superannuation—Departing temporary residents	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
24.03.2004	Australian Federal Police Commissioner—Statement	Leader of the Government in the Senate
01.04.2004	Immigration—Ministerial discretion	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
21.06.2004	Indigenous Australians—Lands Acquisition Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 2)	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
22.06.2004	Defence—Iraq—Human rights abuses	Minister for Defence
23.06.2004	Science and Technology—Synthetic aperture radar	Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
23.06.2004	Defence—Office of National Assessments report	Leader of the Government in the Senate
24.06.2004	Environment—Videophone facilities	
04.08.2004	Defence—Missile defence program	Minister for Defence
05.08.2004	Environment—Bushfire mitigation and management	Minister representing the Prime Minister
10.08.2004	Environment—Repulse Bay	Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
11.08.2004	Environment—Nuclear waste storage	Minister for Finance and Administration

Parliament

21 Security funding

The Senate:

- (a) notes the transfer of \$1 million from the Department of the Senate to the Department of Parliamentary Services as a special contribution to security costs in the parliamentary precincts over and above the transferred funds previously provided for security, and
- (b) agrees that, if any further funds are necessary to provide additional security costs, they be made by additional appropriation to, or savings within, the Department of Parliamentary Services.

(Agreed to 8 December 2004 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Appropriations and Staffing Committee in its 41st report.)

22 Appropriation bills: Payments to international organisations

The Senate is of the view that:

- (a) an initial payment to an international organisation in effect represents a new policy decision and therefore should be in Appropriation Bill (No. 2); and
- (b) subsequent payments represent a continuing government activity of supporting the international organisation and therefore represents an ordinary annual service and should be in Appropriation Bill (No. 1).

(Agreed to 8 December 2004 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Appropriations and Staffing Committee in its 41st report.)

23 Storage of Senate documents

The Senate authorises the storage outside Parliament House by the National Archives of Australia of documents laid before the Senate, provided that the storage of those documents is under the control of the Department of the Senate and microfilm copies of them are available within Parliament House.

(Agreed to 6 October 2005 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Procedure Committee in its first report of 2005.)



CONTINGENT NOTICES OF MOTION

Auditor-General's reports—Consideration

- 1 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the President presenting a report of the Auditor-General on any day or notifying the Senate that such a report had been presented under standing order 166)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion to take note of the report and any senator speaking to it for not more than 10 minutes, with the total time for the debate not to exceed 60 minutes.

Conduct of business

- 2 **Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill):** To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent a minister moving a motion to provide for the consideration of any matter.
- 3 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the conduct of the business of the Senate or to provide for the consideration of any matter.

Government documents

- 4 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the Senate proceeding to the consideration of government documents)—That so much of the standing orders relating to the consideration of government documents be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order in which the documents are called on by the President.

Limitation of time

Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

- 5 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion that a bill be considered an urgent bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent debate taking place on the motion.
- 6 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion to specify time to be allotted to the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent the motion being debated without limitation of time and each senator speaking for the time allotted by standing orders.
- 7 To move (contingent on the chair declaring that the time allotted for the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill, has expired)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent further consideration of the bill, or the stage of the bill, without limitation of time or for a specified period.

Matters of urgency

- 8 **Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill):** To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent a minister moving an amendment to the motion.
- 9 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving an amendment to the motion.

Order of business

- 10 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the President proceeding to the placing of business on any day)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order of business on the *Notice Paper*.

Questions without notice

- 11 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on a minister at question time on any day asking that further questions be placed on notice)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion that, at question time on any day, questions may be put to ministers until 28 questions, including supplementary questions, have been asked and answered.

Statements

- 12 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to make a statement to the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent that senator making that statement.

Tabling of documents

- 13 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to table a document in the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving that the document be tabled.

TEMPORARY CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES

Senators Barnett, Brandis, Chapman, Crossin, Ferguson, Forshaw, Hutchins, Kirk, Lightfoot, Marshall, Moore, Murray, Troeth and Watson

CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Appropriations and Staffing

House

Library

Privileges

Procedure

Publications

Selection of Bills

Senators' Interests

Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committees

Regulations and Ordinances

Scrutiny of Bills

Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees

Community Affairs Legislation

Community Affairs References

Economics Legislation

Economics References

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References

Finance and Public Administration Legislation

Finance and Public Administration References

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References

Legal and Constitutional Legislation

Legal and Constitutional References

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References

Select Committees

Administration of Indigenous Affairs

Lindeberg Grievance

Mental Health

Scrafton Evidence

Joint Statutory Committees

Australian Crime Commission

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings

Corporations and Financial Services

Intelligence and Security

Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account

Public Accounts and Audit

Public Works

Joint Committees

Electoral Matters
 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
 Migration
 National Capital and External Territories
 Parliamentary Library
 Treaties

N.B. Details appear in the following section, with committees listed in alphabetical order.

COMMITTEES

Administration of Indigenous Affairs—Select Committee

(appointed 16 June 2004; reappointed 17 November 2004; final report tabled 8 March 2005)

Members

Senator Moore (*Chair*), Senator Johnston (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Carr, Crossin, Heffernan, Nettle, Ridgeway and Scullion

Reports presented

Interim report (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

After ATSIC – Life in the mainstream? (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Appropriations and Staffing—Standing Committee*Members*

The President (*Chairman*), the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Bartlett, Boswell, Faulkner, Ferris, Heffernan and Ray

Reports presented

41st report—Security funding; Appropriation bills: Payments to international organisations (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

42nd report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2005-06 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee*Members*

Senator Santoro (*Chair*), Mr Kerr (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Ferris, Ludwig and Polley and Mrs Gash, Mr Hayes, Mr Richardson and Mr Wood

Reports presented

Examination of the annual report for 2002-03 of the National Crime Authority and the Australian Crime Commission (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Examination of the annual report for 2003-04 of the Australian Crime Commission
(tabled 23 June 2005)

Inquiry into the trafficking of women for sexual servitude—Supplementary report
(tabled 11 August 2005)

Review of the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002* (tabled 10 November 2005)

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

The President, the Speaker and Senators Faulkner and Ferris and Mr Baldwin,
Mr Bartlett, Mr Lindsay, Mr Murphy and Ms Vamvakinou

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Family and Community Services; Health and Ageing

Members

Senator Humphries (*Chair*), Senator Moore (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Barnett,
Fielding and Polley

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bartlett, Bishop, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell,
Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson,
Ferris, Forshaw, Hogg, Hurley, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, McEwen,
McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Siewert, Watson,
Webber and Wong

Reports presented

Tobacco advertising prohibition (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees,
Senator Kirk, on 30 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled
16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Private Health Insurance Incentives Amendment Bill 2004 (*tabled
8 February 2005*)

Provisions of the National Health Amendment (Prostheses) Bill 2004 (*tabled
10 February 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Safety-nets) Bill 2005
(*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the National Health Amendment (Budget Measures—Pharmaceutical
Benefits Safety Net) Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment
(Welfare to Work and Other Measures) Bill 2005 and the Family and Community
Services Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work) Bill 2005 (*tabled 28 November
2005*)

Community Affairs References Committee*Members*

Senator Moore (*Chair*), Senator Humphries (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Allison, Carol Brown and Polley

Substitute members

Petrol sniffing in remote Aboriginal communities—
 Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Allison
 Senator Crossin to replace Senator Carol Brown

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Barnett, Bartlett, Bishop, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Hurley, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Murray, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Siewert, Watson, Webber and Wong

Current inquiries

Workplace exposure to toxic dust (*referred 22 June 2005; reporting date: 2 March 2006*)
 Petrol sniffing in remote Aboriginal communities (*referred 5 October 2005; reporting date: 30 March 2006*)

Response sought

* Response of committee to petition on the management and prevention of gynaecological cancers and sexually transmitted infections (*referred 7 December 2005; required: last sitting day in March 2006*)

Reports presented

Inquiry into aged care—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 30 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)
 Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)
 Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 7 March 2005*)
 Protecting vulnerable children: A national challenge—Second report on the inquiry into children in institutional or out-of-home care (*tabled 17 March 2005*)
 The cancer journey: Informing choice—Report on the inquiry into services and treatment options for persons with cancer (*tabled 23 June 2005*)
 Quality and equity in aged care (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee*Members*

Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Ms AE Burke (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Murray, Sherry and Wong and Mr Baker, Mr Bartlett, Mr Bowen and Mr McArthur

Current inquiry

Corporate responsibility (*adopted 22 June 2005*)

Reports presented

Australian Accounting Standards tabled in compliance with the *Corporations Act 2001* on 30 August and 16 November 2004 (*tabled 10 February 2005*)
 Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

Inquiry into the exposure draft of the Corporations Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2005 (*tabled 16 June 2005*) and erratum (*tabled 16 June 2005*)

Property investment advice – Safe as houses? (*tabled 23 June 2005*) and erratum (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Timeshare: The price of leisure (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Economics Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Treasury; Industry, Tourism and Resources

Members

Senator Brandis (*Chair*), Senator Stephens (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Murray, Watson and Webber

Substitute member

Matters relating to the Resources portfolio—Senator Allison to replace Senator Murray

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Bartlett, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Murray, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stott Despoja and Wong

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Superannuation Reporting) Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 7) Bill 2005 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Superannuation Bill 2005, Superannuation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2005 and Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Superannuation Funds) Bill 2005 (*tabled 21 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Improvements to Self Assessment) Bill (No. 1) 2005 and the Shortfall Interest Charge (Imposition) Bill 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Trade Practices Amendment (National Access Regime) Bill 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Loss Recoupment Rules and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), November 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Economics References Committee

Members

Senator Stephens (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Lundy, Murray and Webber

Substitute member

Matters relating to the Resources portfolio—Senator Allison to replace Senator Murray

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Barnett, Bartlett, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Murray, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stott Despoja, Watson and Wong

Report presented

Consenting adults deficits and household debt: Links between Australia's current account deficit, the demand for imported goods and household debt (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Senators Brandis, Carr, Hogg, Mason and Murray and Mr Ciobo, Mr Danby, Mr Griffin, Ms Panopoulos and Mr ADH Smith

Current inquiry

Electoral funding and disclosure and any amendments to the Commonwealth Electoral Act necessary in relation to political donations (*referred 30 November 2004*)

Report presented

The 2004 federal election—Report of the inquiry into the conduct of the 2004 federal election and matters related thereto (*tabled 10 October 2005*) and corrigendum (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Employment and Workplace Relations; Education, Science and Training

Members

Senator Troeth (*Chair*), Senator Marshall (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, George Campbell, Johnston and Stott Despoja

Substitute members

Matters relating to the Schools and Training portfolio—Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja

Matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio—Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bartlett, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Humphries, Hutchins, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, Milne, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber and Wong

Reports presented

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2004 (presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004) and a supplementary report from the Australian Democrats (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting Small Business Employment) Bill 2004—Interim report (presented to the President on 14 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Inquiry into the proposed amendment in the form of Schedule 1B to the Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2004—Interim report (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 27 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Agreement Validation) Bill 2004 (tabled 29 November 2004)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (tabled 8 December 2004)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004 (tabled 14 March 2005)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004 (tabled 14 March 2005)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (tabled 15 March 2005)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (tabled 16 March 2005)

Provisions of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2005 and the Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2005 (tabled 10 May 2005)

Provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Promoting Safer Workplaces) Bill 2005 (tabled 10 May 2005)

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (tabled 10 May 2005)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (tabled 20 June 2005)

Provisions of Skilling Australia's Workforce Bill 2005 and Skilling Australia's Workforce (Repeal and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005 (tabled 9 August 2005)

Provisions of the Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005 (tabled 10 August 2005)

Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Bill 2005 (tabled 18 August 2005)

Provisions of the Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Bill 2005 (tabled 18 August 2005)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (tabled 8 September 2005)

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Workplace Relations Requirements) Bill 2005 (tabled 10 October 2005)

Provisions of the Student Assistance Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

Bills relating to the establishment of Carnegie Mellon University 2005: Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 4) Bill 2005 and the Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 November 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 28 November 2005*)

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005 and Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Related Amendments) Bill 2005 (*tabled 29 November 2005*)

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

Members

Senator Marshall (*Chair*), Senator Troeth (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, George Campbell, McEwen and Stott Despoja

Substitute members

Matters relating to the Schools and Training portfolio—Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja

Matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio—Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Humphries, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber and Wong

Current inquiry

* Pacific region seasonal contract labour (*referred 7 December 2005; reporting date: 17 August 2006*)

Reports presented

Inquiry into lifelong learning—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into Indigenous training and employment—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into student income support—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Indigenous education funding—Interim report (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Unfair dismissal and small business employment (*tabled 21 June 2005*)

Indigenous education funding—Final report (*tabled 22 June 2005*) and corrigendum (*tabled 23 June 2004*)

Student income support (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Workplace agreements (*presented to the President on 31 October 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Environment and Heritage; Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Members

Senator Eggleston (*Chair*), Senator Lundy (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Ronaldson, Santoro, Siewert and Wortley

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Ray, Siewert, Watson, Webber and Wong

Current inquiry

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Bill 2005 (*referred 9 November 2005; reporting date: 8 February 2006*)

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the National Water Commission Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Provisions of the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Anti-Siphoning) Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Regular Reviews and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2005 and related bills (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Members

Senator Bartlett (*Chair*), Senator Adams (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Conroy, Lundy, Ronaldson and Wortley

Substitute member

Economic impact of salinity on the Australian environment—Senator Stephens to replace Senator Conroy

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Humphries, Joyce, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Siewert, Stephens, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

Economic impact of salinity on the Australian environment (*referred 17 March 2005; reporting date: second sitting day of 2006*)

- * Australia's national parks (*referred 7 December 2005; reporting date: 30 November 2006*)

Reports presented

Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's energy white paper—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Turning back the tide – the invasive species challenge: Report on the regulation, control and management of invasive species and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

A lost opportunity? Inquiry into the provisions of the Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004 and related bills and matters (*tabled 10 March 2005*)

Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's energy white paper—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 18 April 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 May 2005*)

Lurching forward, looking back: Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's Energy White Paper (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Crossin, on 16 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 June 2005*)

The performance of the Australian telecommunications regulatory regime (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Parliament; Prime Minister and Cabinet; Finance and Administration; Human Services

Members

Senator Mason (*Chair*), Senator Murray (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Carol Brown, Fifield and Forshaw

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Hogg, Joyce, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, McGauran, Milne, Moore, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Trood, Watson and Webber

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*) and corrigendum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 7 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)
Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), May 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)
Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)
Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Members

Senator Forshaw (*Chair*), Senator Watson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Carol Brown, Fifield, Moore and Murray

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Bishop, Brandis, Boswell, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Joyce, Ludwig, Lundy, Sandy Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Stewert, Stephens, Trood and Webber

Reports presented

Inquiry into government advertising and accountability—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 3 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Regional Partnerships and Sustainable Regions programs (*tabled 6 October 2005*)

Matters relating to the Gallipoli Peninsula (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

Government advertising and accountability (*tabled 6 December 2005*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Senators Crossin, Eggleston, Hutchins, Johnston, Kirk, Moore, Payne, Scullion, Stott Despoja and Webber and Mr Baird, Mr Barresi, Mr Danby, Mrs Draper, Mr Edwards, Mrs Gash, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr Jull, Mrs Moylan, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Sercombe, Mr Snowdon, Mr CP Thompson, Mr Turnbull, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wakelin and Mr Wilkie

Current inquiries

Australia's defence relations with the United States (*adopted 26 November 2003; readopted 17 January 2005*)

Australia's relations with the Republic of Korea; and developments on the Korean peninsula (*referred 7 April 2005*)

Australian Defence Force regional air superiority (*referred 14 June 2005*)

Reports presented

Expanding Australia's trade and investment relations with the Gulf States (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Australia's human rights dialogue process (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Reform of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2003-04 (*tabled 11 October 2005*)

Australia's defence relations with the United States—Report of the delegation to the United States, 28 June to 13 July 2005 (*tabled 11 October 2005*)

Australia's free trade agreements with Singapore, Thailand and the United States: progress to date and lessons for the future (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Foreign Affairs and Trade; Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Members

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bishop, Ferguson, Payne and Stott Despoja

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Bartlett, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Hurley, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Nash, Nettle, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Siewert, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber and Wortley

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Members

Senator Hutchins (*Chair*), Senator Johnston (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bishop, Hogg, Joyce and Stott Despoja

Substitute member

Chen Yonglin and Vivian Solon cases—Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Stott Despoja

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Bartlett, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Hurley, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Nash, Nettle, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Siewert, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber and Wortley

Current inquiries

Australia's relationship with China (*referred 8 December 2004; reporting date: report on the geo-political and strategic aspects of Australia's relationship with China; 30 March 2006*)

Chen Yonglin and Vivian Solon cases (*referred 16 June 2005; reporting date: report on matters specified in paragraph (c) of the terms of reference and any related matters; last sitting day in 2005*)

Naval shipbuilding in Australia (*referred 10 November 2005; reporting date: last sitting day in 2006*)

Reports presented

Inquiry into the effectiveness of Australia's military justice system—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 8 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 6 December 2004*)

The effectiveness of Australia's military justice system (*tabled 16 June 2005*)

Duties of Australian personnel in Iraq (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Mr Chen Yonglin's request for political asylum (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

The removal, search for and discovery of Ms Vivian Solon—Interim report (*tabled 15 September 2005*)

Opportunities and challenges: Australia's relationship with China (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

House—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President and Senators Carr, Crossin, Ferris, Lightfoot and Stephens

Intelligence and Security—Joint Statutory Committee

(*formerly the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD; name amended 2 December 2005 pursuant to item 39 in Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Act 2005*)

Members

Mr Jull (*Chair*), Senators Ferguson, McGauran and Ray and Mr Byrne, Mr Kerr and Mr McArthur

Current inquiry

Review of listings of certain terrorist organisations under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (*statutory responsibility*)

Reports presented

Review of the listing of six terrorist organisations (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Review of administration and expenditure for ASIO, ASIS and DSD (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual report of committee activities 2004-05 (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Review of the listing of Tanzim Qa'idat al-jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (the al-Zarqawi network) as a terrorist organisation (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Review of the listing of seven terrorist organisations (*tabled 9 August 2005*)

Review of the listing of four terrorist organisations (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

ASIO's questioning and detention powers: Review of the operation, effectiveness and implications of Division 3 of Part III in the *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979* (tabled 30 November 2005)

Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Attorney-General; Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Members

Senator Payne (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Kirk, Mason and Scullion

Substitute members

Matters relating to the Attorney-General's portfolio—Senator Stott Despoja to replace Senator Bartlett

Provisions of the Australian Citizenship Bill 2005 and the Australian Citizenship (Transitionals and Consequentials) Bill 2005—Senator Hurley to replace Senator Crossin

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Barnett, Bartlett, Bishop, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Hurley, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Nettle, Parry, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Trood and Watson

Current inquiries

Provisions of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005 (*referred 7 September 2005; reporting date: first sitting day in 2006*)

Provisions of the Australian Citizenship Bill 2005 and the Australian Citizenship (Transitionals and Consequentials) Bill 2005 (*referred 30 November 2005; reporting date: 27 February 2006*)

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Marriage Amendment Bill 2004 (*presented to the President on 6 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2004 (*presented to the President on 6 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Copyright Legislation Amendment Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Disability Discrimination Amendment (Education Standards) Bill 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Administrative Appeals Tribunal Amendment Bill 2004 [2005] (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Criminal Code Amendment (Trafficking in Persons Offences) Bill 2004 [2005] (*tabled 10 March 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Migration Litigation Reform Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Provisions of the National Security Information Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Provisions of the Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2005 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

Crimes Legislation Amendment (Telecommunications Interception and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 17 June 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 20 June 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Copyright Amendment (Film Directors' Rights) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Provisions of the Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Serious Drug Offences and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 15 August 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 August 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Video Link Evidence and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 November 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Anti-Terrorism Bill (No. 2) 2005 (*tabled 28 November 2005*)

Legal and Constitutional References Committee

Members

Senator Crossin (*Chair*), Senator Fierravanti-Wells (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Joyce, Kirk and Ludwig

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Barnett, Bishop, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Lightfoot, Lundy, Mason, McGauran, Murray, Milne, Nettle, Payne, Parry, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Trood and Watson

Current inquiry

Administration of the Migration Act (*referred 21 June 2005; reporting date: 21 December 2005*)

Reports presented

The road to a republic (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into Australian expatriates—Interim report (*presented to the President on 1 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 6 December 2004*)

They still call Australia home: Inquiry into Australian expatriates (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

The real Big Brother: Inquiry into the *Privacy Act 1988* (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Library—Standing Committee*Members*

The President (*Chair*) and Senators Brandis, Faulkner, Joyce, McEwen, Polley and Trood

Lindeberg Grievance—Select Committee

(*appointed 1 April 2004; final report tabled 16 November 2004*)

Report presented

Report (*presented to the Deputy President on 15 November 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Mental Health—Select Committee

(*appointed 8 March 2005; terms of appointment varied 18 August 2005; reporting date: the Thursday of the second sitting week in March 2006*)

Members

Leader of the Australian Democrats (*Chair*), Senator Humphries (*Deputy Chair*) and Senators Forshaw, Moore, Scullion, Troeth and Webber

Migration—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Mr Randall (*Chair*), Senator Kirk (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Eggleston and Parry and Mr L Ferguson, Mrs Irwin, Mr Keenan, Dr Lawrence and Dr Southcott

Current inquiry

Skills recognition, upgrading and licensing (*referred 19 April 2005*)

Reports presented

Inspections of Baxter Immigration Detention Facility and Port Augusta Residential Housing Project, April 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Review of Audit Report no. 1, 2005-06, Management of the detention centre contracts—Part B (*tabled 6 December 2005*)

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), the Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, and Senators Carr†, Joyce and Stott Despoja and Mrs AL Ellis, Mr Neville, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Snowdon and Mr Secker

†Senator Carr to be discharged from 13 March 2006 with Senator Lundy to be appointed in his place

Current inquiry

Current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories (*referred 11 May 2005; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2006*)

Reports presented

Indian Ocean territories: Review of the annual reports of the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Department of the Environment and Heritage (presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Difficult choices: Inquiry into the role of the National Capital Authority in determining the extent of redevelopment of the Pierces Creek Settlement in the ACT (presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Antarctica: Australia's pristine frontier—Report on the adequacy of funding for Australia's Antarctic Program (tabled 23 June 2005)

Norfolk Island financial sustainability: The challenge – sink or swim (tabled 1 December 2005)

Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account—Joint Statutory Committee

(term extended until 23 March 2006 in accordance with the Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title Act 2004; name amended 22 February 2005 pursuant to items 208 and 210 in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Act 2005)

Members

Senator Scullion (*Chair*), Mr McMullan (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Crossin, Evans, Johnston and Siewert and Mr Melham, Mr Randall, Mr Slipper and Mr Tollner

Report presented

Examination of annual reports in fulfilment of the committee's duties pursuant to s.206(c) of the *Native Title Act 1993*—
2003-04 (tabled 23 June 2005)

Parliamentary Library—Joint Standing Committee

(appointed 7 December 2005)

Privileges—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Faulkner (*Chair*), Senator Ronaldson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Humphries, Evans†, Johnston, Payne and Sherry

†Senator Evans to be discharged from 11 December 2005 with Senator Ray to be appointed in his place

Reports presented

120th report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of private deliberations or draft report of Select Committee on the Free Trade Agreement between Australia and the United States of America (tabled 8 March 2005)

121st report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of draft reports of Community Affairs References Committee (tabled 15 March 2005)

122nd report—Parliamentary privilege – unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings (tabled 21 June 2005)

123rd report—Possible failure by a senator to comply with the Senate's resolution relating to registration of interests (*tabled 5 October 2005*)

124th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Professor David Peetz) (*tabled 6 December 2005*)

Procedure—Standing Committee

Members

The Deputy President (*Chair*), the President, the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Bartlett, Eggleston, Ellison, Faulkner, Ferguson and Ludwig†

†Senator Ludwig to be discharged from 11 December 2005 with Senator Ray to be appointed in his place

Current inquiry

Adequacy and appropriateness of the Register of Senators' Interests (*referred 20 June 2005*)

Reports presented

First report of 2005—Storage of Senate documents; Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings (*presented to the President on 20 September 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 5 October 2005*)

Second report of 2005—Declaration of interests: registration of Senators' share tradings; Unanswered questions and orders for documents: proposed amendments of standing orders 74(5) and 164; Repeated motions for suspension of standing orders: ruling of the President of 14 September 2005 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Moore, on 28 October 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Mr Baldwin (*Chairman*), Senators Hogg, Humphries, Moore, Murray, Nash and Watson and Mrs BK Bishop, Mr Broadbent, Mr Emerson, Ms Grierson, Ms JM Kelly, Ms King, Dr Laming, Mr Tanner and Mr Ticehurst

Reports presented

Nomination of a new Commonwealth Auditor-General, pursuant to subsection 8A(7) of the *Public Accounts and Audit Committee Act 1951* (*statement made, by way of a report, 10 March 2005*)

Report 403—Access of Indigenous Australians to law and justice services (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Report 404—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2003-04: Third and fourth quarters; and first and second quarters of 2004-05 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Report 405—Annual report 2004-05 (*tabled 28 November 2005*)

Committee document presented

Statement on the Australian National Audit Office budget estimates for 2005-06 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee*Members*

Mrs Moylan (*Chairman*), Senators Forshaw, Parry and Troeth and Mr Forrest, Mr Jenkins, Mr BP O'Connor, Mr Ripoll and Mr Wakelin

Reports presented

Development of land at Lee Point, Darwin, for defence and private housing (Fifth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet at 1 National Circuit, Barton, ACT (Sixth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Attorney-General's Department at 3-5 National Circuit, Barton, ACT (Seventh report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

New east building for the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT (Eighth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Development of a new collection storage facility for the National Library of Australia at Hume, ACT (Ninth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Sixty-eighth annual report, March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources in Civic, ACT (First report of 2005) (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

New housing for Defence Housing Authority at McDowall, Brisbane, Queensland (Second report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Provision of facilities for Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre additional accommodation and related works, Maribyrnong, Victoria (Third report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Development of on-base housing for Defence at Puckapunyal, Victoria (Fourth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Defence Science and Technology Organisation Ordnance Breakdown Facility, Port Wakefield, South Australia (Fifth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Australia House Defence and lightwells refurbishment, Australian High Commission, London (Sixth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Mid-life upgrade of existing chancery at the Australian High Commission, Singapore (Seventh report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

New Consulate-General building, Bali, Indonesia (Eighth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Construction of Chancery, Vientiane, Laos (Ninth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Reserve Bank of Australia business resumption site (Tenth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Holsworthy program – Special operations working accommodation and base redevelopment stage 1 (Eleventh report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

CSIRO entomology bioscience laboratory at Black Mountain, Canberra, ACT (Twelfth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Operational upgrade, Darwin Detention Facility, Berrimah, NT (Thirteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Upgrade patrol boat facilities, HMAS *Coonawarra*, Darwin, NT (Fourteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Redevelopment of Kokoda Barracks, Canungra, Queensland (Fifteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Redevelopment of Willis Island meteorological office, Coral Sea (Sixteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 September 2005*)

Refurbishment of the Royal Australian Mint, Canberra, ACT (Seventeenth report of 2005) (*tabled 12 October 2005*)

RAAF Base Amberley redevelopment stage 2, Queensland (Eighteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Relocation of RAAF College; RAAF Base East Sale, Victoria and RAAF Base Wagga, New South Wales (Nineteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

CSIRO minerals laboratory extensions at Waterford, Perth, WA (Twentieth report of 2005) (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for AusAID at London Circuit, City, ACT (Twenty-first report of 2005) (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

- * Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Customs Service at 1010 Latrobe Street, Melbourne Docklands (Twenty-second report of 2005) (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Publications—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Watson (*Chair*), Senators Johnston, Marshall, Nash, Polley, Sterle and Wortley

Reports presented

1st report (*tabled 9 December 2004*)

2nd report (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

3rd report (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

4th report (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

5th report (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

6th report (*tabled 15 September 2005*)

7th report (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

8th report (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator Watson (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Mason, Santoro and Wortley

Report presented

112th report—40th Parliament report (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Documents presented

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, February to December 2004 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Regulations and disallowable instruments tabled in the Senate in 2004, dated February 2005 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, December 2004 to June 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee*Portfolios*

Transport and Regional Services; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Members

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), Senator McEwen (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Ferris, McGauran, Milne and Sterle

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Hogg, Hutchins, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Sandy Macdonald, Mason, McLucas, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Siewert, Stephens, Trood, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

The administration by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of the citrus canker outbreak (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 27 May 2005*)

National Animal Welfare Bill 2005 (*referred 22 June 2005; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2006*)

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), including final report on the administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the National Animal Welfare Bill 2003—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Watson, on 8 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Administration of Biosecurity Australia – Revised draft import risk analysis for bananas from the Philippines (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

Administration of Biosecurity Australia – Revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Provisions of the AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill 2004 and the AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Regulatory framework under the *Maritime Transport Security Amendment Act 2005* (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand) Bill 2005 (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Maritime Security Guards and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Members

Senator Siewert (*Chair*), Senator Heffernan (*Deputy Chair*), Senators McEwen, Nash, O'Brien and Sterle

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Hutchins, Joyce, Ludwig, Lightfoot, Lundy, Sandy Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Nettle, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Stephens, Trood, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

Water policy initiatives (*referred 14 September 2005; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2006*)

Australia's future oil supply (*referred 29 November 2005; reporting date: 15 June 2006*)

Reports presented

Australian forest plantations: A review of Plantations for Australia: The 2020 Vision (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*) and corrigendum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 3 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*) and further corrigenda (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Iraqi wheat debt – repayments for wheat growers (*tabled 16 June 2005*)

The operation of the wine-making industry (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

Scrafton Evidence—Select Committee

(*appointed 30 August 2004; reappointed 18 November 2004; final report tabled 9 December 2004*)

Members

Senator Collins (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Faulkner and Ferguson

Report presented

Report (*tabled 9 December 2004*)

Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator Ray (*Chairman*), Senator Mason (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Barnett, Johnston, McEwen and Murray

Current inquiry

Entry, search and seizure provisions in Commonwealth legislation (*referred 25 March 2004; readopted 29 November 2004*)

Alert Digests presented

- No. 11 of 2004 (*tabled 1 December 2004*)
- No. 12 of 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
- No. 1 of 2005 (*tabled 9 February 2005*)
- No. 2 of 2005 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)
- No. 3 of 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)
- No. 4 of 2005 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)
- No. 5 of 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 June 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 June 2005*)
- No. 6 of 2005 (*tabled 15 June 2005*)
- No. 7 of 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)
- No. 8 of 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)
- No. 9 of 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)
- No. 10 of 2005 (*tabled 7 September 2005*)
- No. 11 of 2005 (*tabled 14 September 2005*)
- No. 12 of 2005 (*tabled 5 October 2005*)
- No. 13 of 2005 (*tabled 9 November 2005*)
- No. 14 of 2005 (*tabled 30 November 2005*)
- * No. 15 of 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Reports presented

- Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 29 November 2004*)
- Eleventh report of 2004 (*tabled 1 December 2004*)
- Twelfth report of 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
- First report of 2005 (*tabled 9 February 2005*)
- Second report of 2005: Legislative Instruments Acts—Determinations (*tabled 9 March 2005*)
- Third report of 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)
- Fourth report of 2005 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)
- Fifth report of 2005 (*tabled 15 June 2005*)
- Sixth report of 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)
- Seventh report of 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)
- Eighth report of 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)
- Ninth report of 2005 (*tabled 7 September 2005*)
- Tenth report of 2005: [including: Retrospectivity—Scrutiny of Bills Committee Practice] (*tabled 14 September 2005*)
- Eleventh report of 2005 (*tabled 5 October 2005*)
- Twelfth report of 2005 (*tabled 12 October 2005*)
- Thirteenth report of 2005 (*tabled 30 November 2005*)
- Fourteenth report of 2005: Accountability and Standing Appropriations (*tabled 30 November 2005*)

Selection of Bills—Standing Committee*Members*

The Acting Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the Nationals Whip, the Australian Greens Whip and Senators Ellison, Ludwig and Webber

Reports presented

- Report no. 12 of 2004 (*presented 1 December 2004*)
 - Report no. 13 of 2004 (*presented 6 December 2004*)
 - Report no. 14 of 2004 (*presented 8 December 2004*)
 - Report no. 1 of 2005 (*presented 9 February 2005*)
 - Report no. 2 of 2005 (*presented 9 March 2005*)
 - Report no. 3 of 2005 (*presented 16 March 2005*)
 - Report no. 4 of 2005 (*presented 11 May 2005*)
 - Report no. 5 of 2005 (*presented 15 June 2005*)
 - Report no. 6 of 2005 (*presented 22 June 2005*)
 - Report no. 7 of 2005 (*presented 10 August 2005*)
 - Report no. 8 of 2005 (*presented 17 August 2005*)
 - Report no. 9 of 2005 (*presented 7 September 2005*)
 - Report no. 10 of 2005 (*presented 14 September 2005*)
 - Report no. 11 of 2005 (*presented 5 October 2005*)
 - Report no. 12 of 2005 (*presented 12 October 2005*)
 - Report no. 13 of 2005 (*presented 9 November 2005*)
 - Report no. 14 of 2005 (*presented 30 November 2005*)
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Senators' Interests—Standing Committee*Members*

Senator Webber (*Chair*), Senator Lightfoot (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Forshaw, Humphries, Kirk, McEwen and Nash

Notifications of alterations of interests

Register of senators' interests, incorporating a statement of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 19 June and 6 December 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 7 December 2004 and 20 June 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating registrable statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 21 June and 12 September 2005—Volumes 1 (A–L) and 2 (M–Z) (*tabled 15 September 2005*)

- * Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 13 September 2005 and 5 December 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Report presented

Report 1/2005: Annual report 2004 (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Dr Southcott (*Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Mason, Santoro, Sterle, Trood and Wortley and Mr Adams, Mr Johnson, Mr Keenan, Mrs May, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Ripoll, Mr Scott and Mr Wilkie

Reports presented

Report 61—The Australia – United States Free Trade Agreement—Corrigenda (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Report 63—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Report 64—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (2) (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Report 65—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (3) and 8 February 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Proposed agreement between Australia and the United States of America (US) relating to the surrender of US nationals to the International Criminal Court (*statement made, by way of a report, 20 June 2005*)

Report 66—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (4), 15 March and 11 May 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Report 67—Treaties tabled on 21 June 2005 (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Report 68—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (5) and 9 August 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

* Report 69—Treaties tabled on 13 September and 11 October 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

* Report 70—Treaty tabled on 9 November 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

SENATE APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

Advisory Council on Australian Archives

Senator Faulkner (*reappointed 20 June 2005, with effect from 27 June 2005, for a period of 3 years*).

Council of the National Library of Australia

Senator Brandis (*appointed 14 March 2005 for a period of 3 years*).

Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust

Senators Faulkner and Watson (*appointed 1 July 2005 and 10 February 1994, respectively*).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate

MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION

Minister	Representing
Senator the Honourable Robert Hill <i>Minister for Defence</i> <i>Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Prime Minister Minister for Trade Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Senator the Honourable Nicholas Minchin (<u>Nick</u>) <i>Minister for Finance and Administration</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i> <i>Vice-President of the Executive Council</i>	Treasurer Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
Senator the Honourable Amanda Vanstone <i>Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs</i> <i>Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Indigenous Affairs</i>	Minister for Education, Science and Training Minister for Vocational and Technical Education Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
Senator the Honourable Kay Patterson <i>Minister for Family and Community Services</i> <i>Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues</i>	Minister for Health and Ageing Minister for Human Services Minister for Ageing
Senator the Honourable Helen Coonan <i>Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts</i>	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
Senator the Honourable Ian Campbell <i>Minister for the Environment and Heritage</i>	Minister for Transport and Regional Services Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
Senator the Honourable Christopher Ellison (<u>Chris</u>) <i>Minister for Justice and Customs</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	Attorney-General
Senator the Honourable Ian Macdonald <i>Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation</i>	Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Senator the Honourable Charles Kemp (<u>Rod</u>) <i>Minister for the Arts and Sport</i>	
Senator the Honourable Eric Abetz <i>Special Minister of State</i>	Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for Small Business and Tourism Minister for Workforce Participation
Parliamentary Secretaries	
Senator the Honourable Richard Colbeck <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</i>	
Senator the Honourable John Macdonald (<u>Sandy</u>) <i>Parliamentary Secretary (Trade)</i>	

In those instances where Senators prefer to be known by other than their first name, the preferred name is underlined.

A GUIDE TO THE NOTICE PAPER

The *Notice Paper* is issued each sitting day and contains details of current business before the Senate. Its structure is based on four main types of business, as follows:

Matters of privilege take precedence over all other business and are listed at the beginning of the *Notice Paper* when they arise. They consist of notices of motion which the President has determined warrant such precedence and any orders relating to uncompleted debates on such motions.

Business of the Senate has precedence over government and general business for the day on which it is listed. It includes disallowance motions, orders of the day for the presentation of committee reports, motions to refer matters to standing committees, motions for leave of absence for a senator and motions concerning the qualification of a senator.

Government business is business initiated by a minister. It takes precedence over general business except for a period of 2½ hours each week set aside on Thursdays for general business.

General business is all other business initiated by senators who are not ministers. It takes precedence over government business only as described above.

Within each of these categories, business consists of notices of motion and orders of the day:

Notices of motion are statements of intention that senators intend to move particular motions on the days indicated. They are entered on the *Notice Paper* in the order given and may be given jointly by two or more senators. Notices of motion are usually considered before orders of the day.

Orders of the day are items of business which the Senate has ordered to be considered on particular days, usually arising from adjourned debates on matters (including legislation) or requirements to present committee reports.

On days other than Thursdays, the *Notice Paper* records in full current items of business of the Senate and government business, but includes only new items of general business from the previous sitting day. On Thursdays, business relating to the consideration of government documents, committee reports and government responses to committee reports is also published.

Other sections in the *Notice Paper* are as follows:

Orders of the day relating to committee reports and government responses follows government business and lists orders of the day for adjourned debates on motions to consider or adopt committee reports and government responses which have been presented during the week. These orders may be considered for one hour on Thursdays at the conclusion of general business. New items appear in the following day's *Notice Paper*. The section is printed in full on Thursdays.

Orders of the day relating to government documents appears in general business and lists orders of the day for adjourned debates on motions to take note of government documents. Such orders arise from consideration of the government documents presented on a particular day and include consideration of any documents not reached on the day. They are also listed for consideration for one hour on Thursdays during the consideration of general business. New items appear in the following day's *Notice Paper*. The section is printed in full on Thursdays.

Business for future consideration lists any notice of motion or order of the day to be considered on a specific day in the future; for example, a committee report ordered to be presented on a specific date, or a notice of motion given for a day other than the next day of sitting.

Bills referred to committees lists all bills or provisions of bills currently being considered by committees.

Questions on notice includes the text of new questions on notice and lists the numbers of unanswered questions.

Orders of the Senate includes orders of short-term duration such as orders for production of documents and those relating to days of sitting for a period of sittings.

Contingent notices of motion are statements of intention by senators that, contingent on a specified occurrence, they may move a motion, usually to suspend standing orders. They are grouped by subject.

Temporary chairs of committees is a daily list of all senators appointed to take the chair in the absence of the President or Deputy President.

Categories of committees is a daily list, categorised by type, of Senate and joint committees. Details of each committee appear in the committee section.

Committees lists all of Senate and joint committees, including membership, current inquiries and reports presented on or since the previous sitting day.

Senate appointments to statutory authorities lists the statutory authorities on which the Senate is represented and details of representation.

Ministerial representation lists Senate ministers and the portfolios they represent.

The ‘full’ Notice Paper

On the first day of each period of sittings a full *Notice Paper* is printed listing all outstanding business before the Senate, including the full text of all unresolved notices of motion and unanswered questions on notice. This edition is a complete reference to unresolved business from earlier in the session and is useful to keep. All business before the Senate is published daily in the full online version of the *Notice Paper*, available on ParlInfo and on the Senate’s Internet site at aph.gov.au/senate.

Inquiries concerning the *Notice Paper* or business listed in it may be directed to the Senate Table Office on (02) 6277 3018.