

2002

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 5

WEDNESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2002

*The House meets this day at 9.30 a.m.***GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****Notices**

- *1 **MR ABBOTT:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*, and for related purposes.
- *2 **MR ABBOTT:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* in relation to secret ballots for protected action, and for related purposes.
- *3 **MR ABBOTT:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*, and for related purposes.
- *4 **MR ABBOTT:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* and the *Workplace Relations Regulations 1996*, and for related purposes.
- *5 **MR HOCKEY:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974*, and for related purposes.
- *6 **MR TUCKEY:** To present a Bill for an Act relating to the application of the *Criminal Code* to certain offences, and for related purposes.
- *7 **MR TUCKEY:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983*, and for related purposes.
- *8 **DR NELSON:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Higher Education Funding Act 1998* and the *Australian Research Council Act 2001*, and for other purposes.
- *9 **MS WORTH:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*, and for related purposes.
- *10 **MR I. E. MACFARLANE:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Space Activities Act 1998*, and for related purposes.
- *11 **MR I. E. MACFARLANE:** To present a Bill for an Act to validate the Proclamation fixing 1 January 2002 as the commencement date of the *Coal Industry Repeal Act 2001*, and for related purposes.

Orders of the day

- 1 **MINISTERS OF STATE AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2002—Mr Griffin*).
- 2 **STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 19 February 2002*).
- 3 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (FAIR DISMISSAL) BILL 2002** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2002—Mr McClelland*).
- 4 **AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 13 February 2002—Mr McClelland*).
- 5 **AIRPORTS AMENDMENT BILL 2002** (*Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2002—Mr Griffin*).

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

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

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

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

Questions unanswered

Nos 1-157.

20 February 2002

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

- (1) What is the revised Budget in 2001-2002 for his Department's spending on appreciation of cultural diversity.
- (2) From this allocation, what sums are allocated for (a) grants under the Living in Harmony initiative, (b) Living in Harmony administration and (c) the New Agenda for Multicultural Australia.
- (3) What other specific items are funded under departmental output 2.4 and what sums are allocated for each such item in 2001-2002.
- (4) What is the forward allocation for 2002-2003 for each item referred to in parts (2) and (3).

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

- (1) What is the revised Budget allocation in 2001-2002 for departmental spending on migrant settlement services in 2001-2002.
- (2) From this allocation what sums are designated for (a) grants for Migrant Resource Centres, (b) grants under the Community Settlement Services Scheme, (c) assistance to refugees and humanitarian entrants under the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy, (d) his Department's settlement planning and information provision and (e) other items, if any.
- (3) What is the forward allocation for 2002-2003 for each item referred to in part (2).
- (4) In respect of the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS), what amount of the 2001-2002 Budget is allocated to (a) initial information and orientation assistance, (b) accommodation support, (c) household formation support, (d) proposers' support, (e) service providers' support, (f) community support for refugees and (g) early health assessment and intervention.
- (5) How many refugees and humanitarian entrants received assistance under the IHSS in 2000-2001 and how many are estimated to receive such assistance in 2001-2002.

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

- (1) How many projects currently receive funding in NSW under (a) the Migrant Resource Centre program and (b) the Community Settlement Services Scheme.
- (2) What is the estimated sum of Commonwealth funding that will be provided to these projects in 2001-2002.
- (3) What is the additional extra cost to these projects in (a) 2001-2002 and (b) 2002-2003 as a result of the implementation of the revised Social and Community Services (SACS) Award in NSW.
- (4) Will the Government provide additional funding to projects in NSW to assist them to meet their increased obligations under the Award; if so, what amount; if not, why not.
- (5) If the Government does not propose to provide NSW projects with additional funding to cope with their award obligations, how will it ensure that (a) service operating hours are not reduced, (b) client caseloads are not cut and (c) staff classifications are not downgraded.

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

- (1) Since September 1994, how many (a) adults and (b) children are estimated to have lost their Australian citizenship due to the operation of section 17 of the Citizenship Act.
- (2) What were the new countries of nationality or citizenship that triggered the loss of Australian citizenship.

- (3) How many of the people referred to in part (1) have to date (a) applied for and (b) obtained a resumption of their Australian citizenship under section 23 of the Act.

*162 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Which Minister sought approval for the special purpose flight on 4 February 2001 that required a Falcon Air Force jet to fly from Canberra to Brisbane without passengers, returning to Canberra that day with Senator I. Macdonald and 12 other passengers.
- (2) What was the purpose of the travel.
- (3) What was the cost for this flight.

*163 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What was the purpose of the special purpose flight requested for the Hon. J. Anderson MP from Canberra to Brisbane on 8 March 2001 to carry Mr Anderson and 12 other passengers.
- (2) What were the stated requirements requested by Mr Anderson necessitating the aircraft's travel to Moree via Brisbane on 8 March 2001 and Moree to Canberra on 9 March 2001.

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

- (1) With respect to the issue of road safety, is there a clear link between speed and serious accidents.
- (2) Does the Government accept that speed advertising contradicts the primary road safety measure that speed kills.
- (3) Has the Government considered the advertising code of the United Kingdom on automotive advertising and speed.
- (4) Is he able to say whether the current Toyota Corolla television advertisement, the Mitsubishi VRX 'speeding bullet' advertisement; the Holden Ute 'kicking up a storm' advertisement; the Ford Ute 'wake-boarding ad and the Honda 'dreams' would be unlikely to be permitted in the UK or other countries with similar advertising codes.

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

- (1) What is the take up rate of set top boxes.
- (2) What is the forecast take-up rates of set-top boxes in (a) 2002, (b) 2003, (c) 2004 and (d) 2005.

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

- (1) Has he seen media reports that the Press Council has warned the Federal Government that (a) its plan to change Australia's cross-media ownership laws could lead to a direct threat to the freedom of the press and (b) giving powers to the Australian Broadcasting Authority could be detrimental to the independence of the press.
- (2) Will the Minister proceed with the proposal to change Australia's cross-media ownership rules to allow a person to own newspapers, television stations and radio stations in the one licence area; if so, why.

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

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the cost of many drugs and medicines available in Australia is cheaper in a number other countries, including Sweden, the UK, Spain, the US, France and Canada.
- (2) Is it a fact that Australia enjoys one of the best life expectancy outlooks in the world.
- (3) Would a reduction in the number of drugs and medicines available to Australians on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) lead to a decrease in the life expectancy of Australian citizens; if so, by how much; if not, why not.
- (4) Does the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) advise the Government on what drugs and medicines are to be included or excluded from the PBS; if not, what body performs this role.
- (5) Will the Minister take steps to guarantee that the considerations of the PBAC, in terms of what drugs and medicines are placed, refused or deleted from the PBS, are made available to the public and not influenced by political interference; if so, how; if not, why not.
- (6) Will the Minister allow interested parties to appeal or seek a review of decisions by the PBAC; if so, how; if not, why not.