Senate Journals

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1 **Meeting of Senate**

The Senate met at 9.30 am. The President (Senator the Honourable Scott Ryan) took the chair, read prayers and made an acknowledgement of country.

2 **Documents**

The Clerk tabled the following documents pursuant to statute:

*Legislative instruments are identified by a Federal Register of Legislation (FRL) number. An explanatory statement is tabled with an instrument unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk.*

- **National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation Act 2018**—National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation Investment Mandate Amendment (First Home Loan Deposit Scheme) Direction 2019 [F2019L01436].
- **National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation Amendment Act 2019**—National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation (First Home Loan Deposit Scheme Commencement) Determination 2019 [F2019L01437].
- **Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973**—Remuneration Tribunal Amendment Determination (No. 6) 2019 [F2019L01435].

3 **Committee—Leave to meet during sitting**

A committee was authorised to meet during the sitting of the Senate, as follows:

- Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) on Thursday, 14 November 2019, from 9.45 am.

4 **National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Streamlined Governance) Bill 2019**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam)—That this bill be now read a second time—and on the amendment moved by Senator Brown:

At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate calls on the Government to:

(a) remove the average staffing level cap for the National Disability Insurance Agency set out in Part 2 of Budget Paper No. 4 (2019–20); and

(b) directly employ the number of people required to administer the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013”.

Debate resumed.

At 12.45 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator O’Neill was speaking.
5 **Senators’ statements**
Senators made statements.

6 **Questions**
Questions without notice were answered.

7 **Management of PFAS contamination—Order for production of documents—Explanation**
Senator Patrick, pursuant to standing order 164(3), asked the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Senator Birmingham) for an explanation of the minister’s failure to comply with an order for the production of a document of 9 September 2019 concerning the government response to the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade inquiry into the management of PFAS contamination.
Senator Birmingham provided an explanation.
Senator Patrick moved—that the Senate take note of the explanation.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

8 **Motion to take note of answers**
Senator Sterle moved—that the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) to questions without notice asked by Senators Gallagher and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wong) today relating to wages growth.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

At 3.30 pm—

9 **Gene Technology Amendment (2019 Measures No. 1) Regulations 2019—Proposed disallowance**
Senator Rice, pursuant to notice, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2—that the Gene Technology Amendment (2019 Measures No. 1) Regulations 2019, made under the *Gene Technology Act 2000*, be disallowed [F2019L00573].
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The Senate divided—

**AYES, 13**

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Senators—
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Antic    Duniam     Lines     Seselja
Askew   Fawcett     McAllister     Sheldon
Ayres   Fierravanti-Wells     McDonald     Smith, Dean
Bernardi   Gallagher     McMahon     Smith, Marielle
Bilyk   Gallagher     O’Sullivan     Sterle
Bragg    Green     Paterson     Stoker
Brockman   Henderson     Rennick     Urquhart*
Carr     Hughes     Ruston     Van
Chandler   Hume     Ryan     Walsh
Ciccone     Keneally

*Tellers

Question negatived.

10 Notices
The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston): To move on the next day of sitting—That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2020 be as follows:

**Autumn sittings:**
Tuesday, 4 February to Thursday, 6 February
Monday, 10 February to Thursday, 13 February
Monday, 24 February to Thursday, 27 February
Monday, 23 March to Thursday, 26 March

**Budget sittings:**
Tuesday, 12 May to Thursday, 14 May

**Winter sittings:**
Monday, 15 June to Thursday, 18 June
Monday, 22 June to Thursday, 25 June

**Spring sittings:**
Tuesday, 11 August to Thursday, 13 August
Monday, 17 August to Thursday, 20 August
Monday, 7 September to Thursday, 10 September
Monday, 14 September to Thursday, 17 September
Monday, 12 October to Thursday, 15 October
Monday, 9 November to Thursday, 12 November
Monday, 23 November to Thursday, 26 November
Monday, 30 November to Thursday, 3 December.
The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston): To move on the next day of sitting—

(1) That estimates hearings by legislation committees for 2020 be scheduled as follows:

**2019-20 additional estimates:**
Monday, 2 March and Tuesday, 3 March (*Group A*)
Wednesday, 4 March and Thursday, 5 March (*Group B*).

**2020-21 Budget estimates:**
Monday, 25 May to Thursday, 28 May, and, if required, Friday, 29 May (*Group A*)
Tuesday, 2 June to Friday, 5 June, and, if required, Friday, 19 June (*Group B*)
Monday, 19 October and Tuesday, 20 October (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)
Wednesday, 21 October and Thursday, 22 October (*supplementary hearings—Group B*).

(2) That cross portfolio estimates hearings on Indigenous matters and on Murray Darling Basin Plan matters be scheduled for Friday, 6 February, Friday, 29 May and Friday, 23 October, but not restricted to these days.

(3) That the committees consider the proposed expenditure in accordance with the allocation of departments and agencies to committees agreed to by the Senate.

(4) That committees meet in the following groups:

**Group A:**
Environment and Communications
Finance and Public Administration
Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

**Group B:**
Community Affairs
Economics
Education and Employment
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

(5) That the committees report to the Senate on the following dates:

(a) Tuesday, 24 March 2020 in respect of the 2019-20 additional estimates; and

(b) Tuesday, 23 June 2020 in respect of the 2020-21 Budget estimates.

Senator Keneally: To move on the next day of sitting—

(1) The Senate notes that the Australian public has a right to know vital information that is held within the Department of Home Affairs, and that regular and timely information should be reported to the Senate and the Australian people to provide oversight and transparency on activities of the Department.
(2) That a monthly update of onshore protection visa lodgements be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs, by not later than 14 days after each:

(a) 31 January;
(b) 28 February;
(c) 31 March;
(d) 30 April;
(e) 31 May;
(f) 30 June;
(g) 31 July;
(h) 31 August;
(i) 30 September;
(j) 31 October;
(k) 30 November; and
(l) 31 December.

(3) Each monthly update must include the total number of:

(a) protection visa lodgements made onshore during the period;
(b) protection visa lodgements made onshore at airports, by airport and state, during the period;
(c) individuals, by country of origin, that made a lodgement for a protection visa onshore during the period;
(d) individuals, by age and gender, that made a lodgement for a protection visa onshore during the period;
(e) refugee status determinations made during the period;
(f) individuals granted a Final Protection Visa during the period;
(g) individuals, by country of origin, granted a Final Protection Visa during the period, and the grant rate;
(h) individuals, by age and gender, granted a Final Protection Visa during the period, and the grant rate;
(i) individuals that were not granted a Final Protection Visa during the period, and the grant rate;
(j) individuals, by country of origin, that were not granted a Final Protection Visa during the period, and the grant rate;
(k) individuals, by age and gender, that were not granted a Final Protection Visa during the period, and the grant rate;
(l) individuals that were not granted a Final Protection Visa that were deported during the period, and the deportation rate;
(m) refugee status determinations awaiting a decision at the end of the period; and
(n) individuals that were not granted a Final Protection Visa that have yet to be deported at the end of the period.
If the Senate is not sitting when a monthly update is ready for presentation, the statement is to be presented to the President under standing order 166.

This order is of continuing effect. (general business notice of motion no. 246)

Senator Keneally: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) 21 November is National Agriculture Day,

(ii) farmers are the lifeblood of this country, and we have always relied on Australia’s farming sector to underpin our economic growth and prosperity,

(iii) current workforce shortages in the horticultural industry are adversely impacting production on our farms and, in turn, the livelihoods of our farmers,

(iv) this workforce labour shortage is now a crisis, as stated by the Member for Mallee, and demonstrated in a recent expose by The Project,

(v) the demand for workers is being met by unscrupulous labour hire companies who trade on the vulnerable,

(vi) Australia’s airports have become a pathway for criminal syndicates and people smugglers to traffic migrant workers into Australia, and exploit the loopholes and delays caused by the Minister for Home Affairs (Mr Dutton) and the Department of Home Affairs,

(vii) although the Federal Government has refused to acknowledge the issue, the Assistant Minister for Customs, Community Safety and Multicultural Affairs has written that ‘Organised crime and illegitimate labour-hire companies are using this loophole to bring out illegal workers who are often vulnerable and open to exploitation’,

(viii) while the Federal Government has ignored this issue, the people smugglers have changed their business model from boats to planes, and

(ix) the people smugglers victimise both foreign workers and our farmers by exploiting loopholes in our visa system, putting the livelihood of farmers and the lives of vulnerable people at risk; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to take immediate action to combat workforce shortages in our horticultural industry by preventing the ongoing trafficking and exploitation of foreign workers by criminal syndicates and people smugglers. (general business notice of motion no. 247)

Senator Urquhart: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) the National Relay Service (NRS) allows deaf and hearing impaired Australians to make and receive telephone calls through the use of text relay services,
(ii) the NRS can be accessed through different options, including CapTel, teletypewriters, SMS and internet relay,

(iii) the Federal Government has decided to end access to CapTel for NRS users as of 1 February 2020,

(iv) CapTel currently carries up to 60% of total call minutes generated by users who rely on the NRS,

(v) according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics National Health Survey, the number of Australians over the age of 65 who are deaf or hearing impaired has increased from 1.016 million in 2012 to 1.211 million in 2018,

(vi) the Federal Government is reducing operational funding to the NRS from $27.7 million to $22 million per annum – a reduction of 20%, and

(vii) up to 3,500 elderly Australians, some whom live alone, currently rely on CapTel to stay in touch with family and friends, and to access emergency services;

(b) further notes that:

(i) the average age of a CapTel user is 82 years old,

(ii) many elderly deaf Australians impacted by this decision consider CapTel is the best technology to support their communications needs,

(iii) the Federal Government did not consult CapTel users on its decision, and

(iv) the Federal Government is seeking to force many CapTel users onto teletypewriters – in 2016, the Department of Communications referred to this technology as ‘legacy’ and sought views on phasing it out;

(c) condemns the Federal Government for not consulting elderly CapTel users, or their concerned family members, before making a decision that would affect their welfare; and

(d) calls on the Federal Government to stop imposing inferior communications options on CapTel users, and instead consult the community to find the best outcome.

(General business notice of motion no. 248)

Senators Sheldon and Gallacher: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) the road transport industry is Australia’s deadliest industry,

(ii) a 2016 report by the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics stated ‘Heavy trucks are disproportionately involved in casualty crashes: approximately 16% of road crash fatalities and 4% of injuries involve these vehicles’ – Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows that trucks represent just 3.6% of registered motor vehicles,

(iii) the latest quarterly report from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics shows 183 people died from truck crashes in the year to June 2019,

(iv) Safe Work Australia shows transport workers have the highest numbers of deaths out of any profession – so far this year, 41 transport workers have been killed on the job out of a total of 121 workers killed,
(v) on 15 October 2019, Nine News aired shocking evidence of a disregard for safety: safety doors blocked, fire equipment hemmed in, chaotic food storage, filthy floors, faulty electrics, poor lighting for truck drivers delivering goods and a flooded yard outside a loading dock at Aldi stores across Australia, and

(vi) on 16 October 2019, truck drivers across Australia took part in nationwide protests to highlight concerns they have with safety at Aldi; and

(b) congratulates transport workers and their worker representatives, the Transport Workers Union of Australia, on helping bring the safety issues at Aldi to light.

\textit{(general business notice of motion no. 249)}

Senator Dean Smith: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that the 2019 Western Australian Education Awards were announced on 28 October 2019;

(b) further notes that there are 11 award categories, including WA Beginning Teacher of the Year, which is awarded to a new teacher who brings fresh ideas, enthusiasm and passion to their classrooms and to the profession;

(c) congratulates the winner of the 2019 WA Beginning Teacher of the Year, Ms Tasmin Drummond, from Vasse Primary School, Kaloorup Road, Vasse WA; and

(d) recognises all finalists nominated for 2019 WA Beginning Teacher of the Year: Mr Dion Alfonsi from Shenton College, Stubbs Terrace, Shenton Park WA; Mr Kieron Alford from Belmont City College, Fisher Street, Belmont WA; and Ms Julie Hughes from Ashdale Secondary College, Westport Parade, Darch WA.

\textit{(general business notice of motion no. 250)}

The Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee (Senator Sterle): To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matter be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee for inquiry and report by 18 June 2020:

The Federal Government’s response to the drought, and the adequacy and appropriateness of policies and measures to support farmers, regional communities and the Australian economy, with particular reference to:

(a) loans and financial support;

(b) water availability, infrastructure, agreement and supply measures;

(c) various market impacts of the measures;

(d) interaction with existing legislative and regulatory instruments across jurisdictions;

(e) the response to the Drought Coordinator’s report;

(f) preparedness for the current drought and the capacity of the Australian Government to prepare for future drought; and

(g) any other related matters.
The Leader of Pauline Hanson’s One Nation (Senator Hanson): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate acknowledges that the construction of a Bradfield-type scheme in Queensland would create far-reaching, positive outcomes in regards to water security, economic growth, the environment and job numbers, for all Australians. *(general business notice of motion no. 251)*

Senator Marielle Smith: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) recognises that:

(i) the first three years of life determine essential foundations for learning, development, and well-being into adulthood,

(ii) access to affordable, high quality early education and care is critical to children’s early development,

(iii) all Australian children deserve access to quality early education and care, regardless of where they live, and

(iv) childcare costs are going up for working families, who are already struggling with stagnating wages, a slowing economy, and skyrocketing costs of living; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to make early childhood education and care a priority, provide long-term funding certainty for four year old preschool and extend the program to three year olds. *(general business notice of motion no. 252)*

Senators Seselja and Kitching: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) 16 November 2019 is McHappy Day,

(ii) McHappy Day is one of the largest national fundraisers for Ronald McDonald House Charities Australia, and has been running for over 25 years to support families of seriously ill and injured children,

(iii) Ronald McDonald House Charities is a national not-for-profit with a mission of helping seriously ill and injured children and their families,

(iv) Ronald McDonald House is a well-known children’s charity, with a local presence in communities across the country, including regional Australia,

(v) the cornerstone of the Ronald McDonald House Charities is providing a ‘home away from home’ for families of seriously ill children being treated at nearby hospitals, and

(vi) many generous donors support this incredibly important cause, and thanks them for their contribution; and

(b) recognises all the staff at Ronald McDonald House and volunteers across Australia who help raise money for seriously ill and injured children and their families in their time of need. *(general business notice of motion no. 253)*

Senator O’Neill: To move on the next day of sitting—That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, by no later than 3.30 pm on 25 November 2019:

(a) the 75 submissions received by the Franchising Taskforce;

(b) the names and titles of the people and organisations who submitted to the Franchising Taskforce;
the minutes of the 31 roundtables and 57 bilateral meetings the Franchising Taskforce undertook;

the minutes of the meeting with the Franchising Council of Australia;

the minutes of the meeting with McDonalds Australia;

the minutes of the meeting with the Australian Association of Franchisees; and

the minutes of the meeting with Professor Jenny Buchan. (general business notice of motion no. 254)

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Di Natale): To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matter be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 12 February 2020:

The current barriers to patient access to medicinal cannabis in Australia, including:

(a) the appropriateness of the current regulatory regime through the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Special Access Scheme, Authorised Prescriber Scheme and clinical trials;

(b) the suitability of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for subsidising patient access to medicinal cannabis products;

(c) the interaction between state and territory authorities and the Commonwealth, including overlap and variation between state and territory schemes;

(d) Australia’s regulatory regime in comparison to international best practice models for medicinal cannabis regulation and patient access;

(e) the availability of training for doctors in the current TGA regulatory regime for prescribing medicinal cannabis to their patients;

(f) the education of doctors in the Endogenous Cannabinoid System (ECS), and the appropriateness of medicinal cannabis treatments for various indications;

(g) sources of information for doctors about uses of medicinal cannabis and how these might be improved and widened;

(h) delays in access, and the practice of product substitution, due to importation of medicinal cannabis and the shortage of Australian manufactured medicinal cannabis products;

(i) the current status of the domestic regulated medicinal cannabis industry;

(j) the impacts on the mental and physical wellbeing of those patients struggling to access medicinal cannabis through Australia’s regulatory regime;

(k) the particular barriers for those in rural and remote areas in accessing medicinal cannabis legally;

(l) the significant financial barriers to accessing medicinal cannabis treatment;

(m) the number of Australian patients continuing to rely on unregulated supply of medicinal cannabis due to access barriers and the impacts associated with that; and

(n) any related matters.
Senator Patrick: To move on the next day of sitting—

(1) That the Senate notes that the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s *Four Corners* story, ‘Cash splash’, aired allegations of mismanagement of funds under the Commonwealth’s water savings efficiency program, including:

(a) the construction of new dams on greenfield sites under a program intended to save water by upgrading existing irrigation developments; and

(b) water holders purchasing water in different valleys, and passing these onto the Department of Agriculture as a water saving from an infrastructure upgrade.

(2) That the Senate has, flowing from its oversight responsibilities, an obligation to examine allegations raised in respect of the proper and efficient expenditure of taxpayers’ money.

(3) That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Water Resources, Drought, Rural Finance, Natural Disaster and Emergency Management, by no later than midday on 26 November 2019:

(a) all correspondence, assessments, technical assessments, reports and audits relating to the Commonwealth purchase of water relating to the following New South Wales (NSW) water access licences: 9628, 23848, 37739, 37738, 15026, 4605, 41568, 7559, 5266, 4529, 5541, 5310, 14803, 9315, 7446, 88123, 8314, 7721, 8676, 37222, 15364, 37379, 16354, 3607 and 11236;

(b) any other purchase through a water efficiency project in NSW, where the total price paid is in excess of $1 million; and

(c) any other purchase through a water efficiency project in NSW, where the project was located in a different valley to the water recovered. (general business notice of motion no. 255)

Senator Rice: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) 8 November 2019 was Intersex Day of Solidarity, and

(ii) Intersex Day of Solidarity is marked internationally, and is a chance to highlight issues facing intersex people; and

(b) calls on all parliamentarians to:

(i) commit to learning more about the lives and experiences of people with variations of sex characteristics, and

(ii) agree to read and consider affirming the Darlington Statement, a joint consensus statement by organisations and independent advocates which sets out the priorities of the intersex human rights movement in Australia and New Zealand. (general business notice of motion no. 256)

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Di Natale): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate urges the Prime Minister, as a matter of priority, to meet with the 23 former fire service chiefs with over 600 years of experience between them, who sought a meeting in both April and again in September, but were rejected by the Prime Minister’s office. (general business notice of motion no. 257)
Senator Hanson-Young: To move on the next day of sitting—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, by 5 pm on 15 November 2019:

(a) the written agreement between the South Australian Government and the Commonwealth Government for 100 gigalitres of Murray-Darling River water to be cut from South Australia’s allocation, and the Commonwealth to fund the increased use of the state’s desalination plant;

(b) the project agreement setting out the terms and conditions of the ‘Water for Fodder’ program;

(c) all other correspondence between the South Australian Government, the Commonwealth Government, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder in relation to this deal; and

(d) all other relevant documentation or agreements between the Commonwealth Government and state governments, and relevant departments and agencies, including the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. (general business notice of motion no. 258)

Senator Roberts: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) areas of the Murray-Darling Basin are experiencing a water crisis,

(ii) water trading rules have allowed speculators to hold temporary irrigation water from the market which has forced the price so high that only large commercial farms can afford to purchase water for a narrow range of crops,

(iii) in times of drought, irrigated farms provide a lifeline for native fauna, and

(iv) the Bureau of Meteorology ‘18 month rainfall deficiency’ indicates areas that are affected by drought; and

(b) calls on the Minister for Water Resources, (Mr Littleproud) to amend the ‘Basin Plan 2012’, consistent with subsection (4)(7) of Schedule 3 of the Water Act 2007, as follows:

(i) a temporary water licence (allocation trade) must not be completed unless the purchaser can show that the water will be used for agricultural purposes as determined by the Irrigation Infrastructure Operator,

(ii) an entity cannot be both a buyer and a seller of temporary water in any 12 month period,

(iii) temporary water must be used within a year of purchase,

(iv) inter-valley transfers cannot occur out of a region in drought,

(v) government entities are prevented from accessing the temporary water trading market,

(vi) water metering capability by a purchaser is not to be used to prevent a temporary water trade, and

(vii) these measures will commence on 1 January 2020 and remain in place until the drought ends. (general business notice of motion no. 259)
Senator Roberts: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate notes that:
(a) valid scientific data proving cause-and-effect is vital as the only credible justification for policies claimed to be based on science; and 
(b) the ultimate arbiter of science is empirical scientific evidence, being:
   (i) objectively verified hard data as physical measurements and/or physical observations, and
   (ii) presented in a logical framework proving cause and effect. (general business notice of motion no. 260)

Senators Ruston, Siewert, Hanson, Lambie, Brown and Griff: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—
(a) notes that:
   (i) 16 November 2019 marks the 10 year anniversary of the National Apology to the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants,
   (ii) an estimated 500,000 children and 7,000 child migrants were placed in institutional or out-of-home care in the last century,
   (iii) many of these children experienced appalling abuse, mistreatment and neglect, most often by the very people responsible for their care, and
   (iv) these Australians faced, and continue to face, an injustice no child should have;
(b) commemorates this anniversary of an acknowledgement of truth that had previously been denied;
(c) acknowledges the victims of this wrong and the deep levels of profound loss, grief, trauma and pain they continue to suffer;
(d) remembers those whose suffering was overwhelming and are tragically no longer with us;
(e) remains strongly committed to supporting forgotten Australians and former child migrants;
(f) reiterates the central principle that children’s interests are paramount and at the centre of all decisions impacting their lives; and
(g) continues to work with state and territory governments to make certain we do not repeat the mistakes of the past. (general business notice of motion no. 261)

Senator Patrick: To move on the next day of sitting—
(i) That the Senate notes that, in respect to the development of Greater Sunrise oil and gas fields:
   (a) on 6 March 2018, Australia and Timor-Leste signed a maritime boundaries treaty establishing permanent maritime boundaries in the Timor Sea, and a legal framework for developing the Greater Sunrise gas fields, together and sharing in the benefits – the treaty has now been ratified by both countries and entered into force on 30 August 2019;
   (b) there are two options for processing the Greater Sunrise gas fields:
      (i) onshore in Australia,
(ii) onshore in Timor Leste, as part of the Timor-Leste Government’s Tasi Mane development strategy for a corridor of petroleum infrastructure along the southwest coast of the country;

(c) the Australian Government stated, in response to a question asked during the estimates hearings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee on 4 September 2019, that ‘Australia wants Greater Sunrise to be developed in a commercially sound way that maximises the return for the parties, and therefore contributes to Timor Leste’s economic development priorities. Provided these conditions are met, Australia is neutral as to whether Greater Sunrise gas is processed in Timor-Leste or Australia’; and

(d) the establishment of a corridor of petroleum infrastructure along the southwest coast of Timor-Leste would be a more complex and challenging endeavour than processing in existing facilities in Australia.

(2) That the following matters relating to the Tasi Mane project be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and to report by the final sitting day of June 2020:

(a) assistance and co-operation offered, to date, by the Australian Government to the Tasi Mane project;

(b) possible future assistance and co-operation by the Australian Government in relation to the Tasi Mane project;

(c) opportunities for Australian industry to assist with the design, development and execution of the Tasi Mane project;

(d) opportunities for the Australian Government to assist Timor-Leste, in respect of activities and projects incidental to the Tasi Mane project;

(e) opportunities for Australian industry, in respect of activities and projects incidental to the Tasi Mane project; and

(f) any related matters.

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

(a) notes that:

(i) as of October 2019, there are 289,489 people of a total of 686,000 people on Newstart who are categorised as having a ‘partial capacity to work’ meaning 42% of Newstart recipients now have an illness or disability,

(ii) 128,820 people (44%) of those with a ‘partial capacity to work’, have a psychological or psychiatric impairment,

(iii) poverty is a well-established social determinant of health, including psychological health, and persistent poverty plays a demonstrable role in increasing levels of psychological distress, and

(iv) the Minister for Health (Mr Hunt) stated on World Mental Health Day 2019 that ‘supporting mental health and suicide prevention is the Government’s highest health priority, and is a central feature of our Long Term National Health Plan. It is also a personal priority for the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, and myself’;
(b) expresses concern that so many Australians with mental ill health are being forced to live in poverty on Newstart and Youth Allowance; and

(c) calls on the Federal Government to recognise the impact poverty has on mental health, and immediately increase Newstart and Youth Allowance to enable people in our community to have dignified standard of living. (general business notice of motion no. 262)

Notices of motion withdrawn:

The Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Fierravanti-Wells) withdrew business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in her name for today, for the disallowance of the Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Regulations 2018 [F2018L01708].

Senator Urquhart, at the request of the Chair of the Select Committee on the effectiveness of the Australian Government’s Northern Australia agenda (Senator Watt) withdrew general business notice of motion no. 235 standing in his name for today, proposing an amendment to the terms of reference of the Select Committee on the effectiveness of the Australian Government’s Northern Australia Agenda.

Intention to withdraw:

The Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Fierravanti-Wells), pursuant to standing order 78, gave notice of her intention, at the giving of notices on the next day of sitting, to withdraw business of the Senate notices of motion no. 1 and 2 standing in her name for three sitting days after today for the disallowance of the following instruments:

Air Services Regulations 2019, made under the Air Services Act 1995, [F2019L00371].


Senator Siewert, pursuant to standing order 78, gave notice of her intention, at the giving of notices on the next day of sitting, to withdraw business of the Senate notice of motion no. 3 standing in her name and in the name of Senator McKim for today for the disallowance of the Quality of Care Amendment (Minimising the Use of Restraints) Principles 2019 [F2019L00511].

Senator Siewert, by leave, made a statement relating to the notice of intention.

11 Postponement

General business notice of motion no. 84 standing in the name of the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Fierravanti-Wells) for today, relating to a proposed amendment to standing orders, postponed till 27 November 2019.

12 Committee—Extension of time to report

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Road transport industry, extended to 14 October 2020.
13 **Economics References Committee—Reference—Unlawful underpayment of employees’ remuneration**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators Farrell, Sheldon, O’Neill and Ciccone and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 4—That the following matter be referred to the Economics References Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in June 2020:

The causes, extent and effects of unlawful non-payment or underpayment of employees’ remuneration by employers and measures that can be taken to address the issue, with particular reference to:

(a) the forms of and reasons for wage theft and whether it is regarded by some businesses as ‘a cost of doing business’;
(b) the cost of wage and superannuation theft to the national economy;
(c) the best means of identifying and uncovering wage and superannuation theft, including ensuring that those exposing wage/superannuation theft are adequately protected from adverse treatment;
(d) the taxation treatment of people whose stolen wages are later repaid to them;
(e) whether extension of liability and supply chain measures should be introduced to drive improved compliance with wage and superannuation-related laws;
(f) the most effective means of recovering unpaid entitlements and deterring wage and superannuation theft, including changes to the existing legal framework that would assist with recovery and deterrence;
(g) whether Federal Government procurement practices can be modified to ensure that public contracts are only awarded to those businesses that do not engage in wage and superannuation theft; and
(h) any related matters.

*Statement by leave:* The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

14 **Regional Jobs and Investment Packages—Business Grants Hub—Order for production of documents**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senator Watt and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 215—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, by no later than 3.30 pm on 14 November 2019, the following documents referred to in Auditor-General’s report no. 12 2019-20, Award of funding under the Regional Jobs and Investment Packages (RJIP):

(a) the Memorandum of Understanding signed in July 2017, under which the Business Grants Hub was engaged to administer aspects of the program;
(b) documents that show how the cost of $8.078 million was determined;
(c) all other documents relating to the Business Grants Hub being selected to administer the RJIP, including emails/briefs between the Minister, the Minister’s office, the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (the Department) and the Business Grants Hub, as well as all correspondence between the Department and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development; and

(d) the request for quote and the final agreed contract between the Department and the contractor who undertook the assessment process at a cost of $3.15 million.

*Statement by leave:* The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

15 **Regional Jobs and Investment Packages—Ministerial Panels—Order for production of documents**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senator Watt and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 216—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, by no later than 3.30 pm on 14 November 2019, the following documents referred to in Auditor-General’s report no. 12 2019-20, Award of funding under the Regional Jobs and Investment Packages (RJIP):

(a) all written briefings provided to Ministerial Panels to inform the award of grant funding in each of the 10 regions;

(b) all written responses from Ministerial Panels to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development (the Department) following consideration of advice provided in relating to paragraph (a) above, including:

(i) all records of requests by Panels to award funding to applications that had not been recommended by the Department, and all reasons for Panels awarding funding to applications that had not been recommended by the Department,

(ii) all records of requests by Panels to not award funding to applications that had been recommended by the Department, and all records of reasons for Panels not awarding funding to applications that had been recommended by the Department,

(iii) any documents identifying projects identified as ineligible, including any that received funding under the RJIP,

(iv) any documents identifying late applications, including any projects that received funding under the RJIP, and

(v) any documents identifying projects where there was a request for a co-funding exemption, including all records related to the decisions on whether to grant an exemption;

(c) a copy of the assurance review contracted by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development; and

(d) all documents provided to Ministers/Ministerial Panels containing the scoring/assessment of all grant applications under the RJIP, and all responses by Ministers/Ministerial Panels to this advice.
Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion. Question put and passed.

16 Gender pay gap

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators Farrell, Green, Rice and Waters, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 221—That the Senate—

(a) recognises that, 40 years after the Matildas first took to the field to play in the World Women’s Invitational Tournament in 1978, Football Federation Australia and Professional Footballers Australia (PFA) have delivered a new four-year collective bargaining agreement, which will see the Matildas and Socceroos receive an equal share of revenue, closing the pay gap between Australia’s national football teams;

(b) notes that:

(i) this agreement has been reached after the extensive collective bargaining efforts of female footballers through the PFA, and

(ii) this is an important step in closing the gender pay gap in professional sport;

(c) notes the current gender pay gap for Australian women is 14% – a statistic which has only decreased by 5% over the past two decades; and

(d) calls on the Federal Government to do more to ensure Australian women are not worse off in any workplace.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion. Question put and passed.

17 Independent Health Advice Panel—Order for production of documents

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senator Keneally and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 220—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs, by no later than 11.45 am on 14 November 2019, a copy of the full report prepared by the Independent Health Advice Panel for the third quarter of 2019, and the Minister’s summary and response, in accordance with Section 199E of the Migration Act 1958.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Documents: Senator Duniam tabled the following documents:

Letter from the First Assistant Secretary, Health Services Division, Department of Home Affairs (Mr Hayward) to the Minister for Home Affairs (Mr Dutton), dated 24 October 2019.

Migration Act 1958—Section 199E—Independent Health Advice Panel—Quarterly reports for the periods—

2 to 31 March 2019—Correction.

1 April to 30 June 2019—Correction.
18 Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Amendment (Tax Transparency in Procurement and Grants) Bill 2019

Senator Patrick, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 222—That the following bill be introduced:

A Bill for an Act to amend the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, and for related purposes.

Question put and passed.

Senator Patrick presented the bill and moved—That this bill may proceed without formalities and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

Senator Patrick moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

Explanatory memorandum: Senator Patrick, by leave, tabled an explanatory memorandum relating to the bill.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Patrick in continuation.

19 Support for Australia’s thalidomide survivors—Government response

Senator Steele-John, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 223—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) there are an estimated 100 living survivors from the thalidomide disaster in Australia who are experiencing rapid deterioration of their health and quality of life,

(ii) the Community Affairs References Committee conducted an inquiry into the support for Australia’s thalidomide survivors and a report, presented on 22 March 2019, found the current supports available to thalidomide survivors to be inadequate — the committee made 11 recommendations, including that the Government should issue a formal apology, as well as provide compensation to enable survivors to live with their disability, and the findings received unanimous support from the committee,

(iii) the Federal Government has not yet responded to the report, and has not indicated a clear timeline for its response to survivors, and

(iv) survivors have clearly articulated the need for urgency in enacting all recommendations of the report, especially those which call for the provision of compensation to all survivors; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to:

(i) urgently respond to the committee report and provide a clear timeline for that response to survivors, and
(ii) enact all recommendations of the committee report without delay.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

20 Newstart

Senator Siewert, also on behalf of Senator Dodson, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 228—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) in December 2018, the Department of Social Services (the Department) figures recorded that 199,907 Newstart recipients had a ‘partial capacity to work’ meaning they are disabled or have an illness that prevents them from working 30 hours per week,

(ii) when the Department released figures to June 2019, it was revealed that the Department had been under-reporting the number of people with a ‘partial capacity to work’ and there were in fact 284,900 on Newstart with ‘partial capacity to work’ in December 2018,

(iii) figures to June 2019 show there are now 289,489, of a total of 686,000 people on Newstart, who are categorised as having a ‘partial capacity to work’ meaning 42% of Newstart recipients now have an illness or disability,

(iv) only 14.5% of people with a ‘partial capacity to work’ are reporting earnings,

(v) the inquiry into the jobactive program, undertaken by the Education and Employment References Committee, found that the employment services framework is not fit for purpose, and

(vi) the jobactive system is making people sick and depressed and exacerbating existing conditions;

(b) expresses its deep concern that:

(i) 42% of Newstart recipients who are sick and disabled people are struggling to pay bills and often forced to choose between a meal or medicine, while looking for work, and

(ii) jobactive and disability employment services (DES) are not adequately supporting sick and disabled people; and

(c) calls on the Federal Government to make it a priority to help alleviate poverty by immediately increasing Newstart.

Question put and passed.
Payday loans and consumer leases
Senator Griff, also on behalf of Senators Bilyk and McAllister, amended general business notice of motion no. 229 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—
(a) notes that:
   (i) on 12 November 2019 the Stop the Debt Trap Alliance released its report entitled, The Debt Trap, and
   (ii) the report contains new data showing the scale of financial harm that payday lending is causing in Australia;
(b) recognises that:
   (i) payday loans trap people in a cycle of debt and leave them in a significantly worse position than they were in prior to taking out the loan,
   (ii) payday lenders target people who are economically disadvantaged and excluded from accessing mainstream finance,
   (iii) over a five-year period, around 15% of payday loan borrowers fall into a debt spiral,
   (iv) the number of women using payday loans has risen from 177,000 in 2016 to 287,000 in 2019 – this represents a rise to 23.13% of all borrowers,
   (v) digital platforms have contributed to a rapid growth in payday lending, with payday loans that originate online expected to hit 85.8% by the end of 2019, and
   (vi) in the 2015 report of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission entitled, The cost of consumer leases for household goods, it found in one case a dryer cost a Centrelink recipient the equivalent of an interest rate of 884%;
(c) further notes that:
   (i) in 2015, the Federal Government initiated a review into small amount credit contracts and accepted the vast majority of recommendations made in the final report of the review delivered in 2016, and
   (ii) in October 2017, the Federal Government released exposure draft legislation on small amount credit contract and consumer lease reforms but since then has taken no action to introduce or attempt to pass the bill; and
(d) calls on the Federal Government to urgently introduce and pass legislation to provide critical protections and stop the harm caused by payday loans and consumer leases.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.
Question put and passed.
22 First flight between England and Australia—100th anniversary

Senator Dean Smith, at the request of Senators Birmingham, Fawcett, Ruston, Bernardi, Antic, Gallacher, Hanson-Young, Wong, Patrick, Marielle Smith, Farrell and Griff and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 230—That the Senate—

(a) notes that today, 12 November 2019, marks the 100th anniversary of the commencement of the first ever flight from England to Australia;

(b) records its enduring respect for the feat achieved by the four-person crew, comprising pilot Ross Smith, navigator Keith Smith and mechanic Wally Shiers, all from South Australia, and mechanic Jim Bennett from Victoria;

(c) recalls that they:

(i) competed alongside five other Australian crews who responded to the invitation by then Prime Minister Billy Hughes to race from London to Darwin in a British-built plane in pursuit of prize money of £10,000, provided they completed the journey within 30 days,

(ii) departed Hounslow, England, on 12 November 1919, stopping at Lyons, Pisa, Venturina, Rome, Taranto, Canea, Cairo, Damascus, Ramadi, Basra, Bundar Abbas, Karachi, Delhi, Muttra, Allahabad, Calcutta, Akyab, Rangoon, Bangkok, Singora, Singapore, Batavia, Surabaya, Bima and Atamboea before landing in Darwin 27 days and 20 hours later at 3.50 pm on 10 December 1919, with an actual flying time of 135 hours,

(iii) overcame great adversity to become the only crew to reach Darwin within the 30 days, with two crews perishing in accidents, two others abandoning the race due to crashes and the other crew taking 206 days to reach Darwin,

(iv) flew a Vickers Vimy, registration number G-EAOU, made largely of wood and fabric, with an open cockpit that variously exposed them to snow, sleet, hail and extreme heat, which is one of only two such aircraft still in existence, housed at Adelaide Airport, and is scheduled to be relocated into a modern, purpose built facility within the airport terminal by 2021, and

(v) were widely praised around the world for this accomplishment, with the New York Times editorialising that Captain Ross Smith “must be hailed as the foremost living aviator”; and

(d) extends its thanks to those who have helped to coordinate celebrations to mark the centenary of this epic flight and, in doing so, to raise awareness of the courage, ingenuity and perseverance of these skilled aviators.

Question put and passed.
23 **Draft dairy code of conduct—Order for production of documents**

The Leader of Pauline Hanson’s One Nation (Senator Hanson), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 236—

(1) That the Senate notes that:
   (a) on 15 March 2019, the Federal Government announced that it would progress a mandatory code of conduct for the dairy industry;
   (b) the current exposure draft of the Competition and Consumer (Industry Codes—Dairy) Regulations 2019 differs from an earlier exposure draft, in that it provides that milk processors will be able to retrospectively reduce the minimum price paid to producers under a milk supply agreement in circumstances that are ‘beyond reasonable control of the processor’; and
   (c) the Minister for Agriculture, Senator McKenzie, stated during a media interview on 12 November 2019 on ABC Radio National, that ‘our legal drafters have interpreted the feedback we got through consultation and have actually reflected that in the words we have today’.

(2) That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Agriculture, by 5 pm on 25 November 2019:
   (a) the drafting instructions provided to legal drafters to make changes to the previous exposure draft of the Competition and Consumer (Industry Codes—Dairy) Regulations 2019; and
   (b) all correspondence between milk processors and the Minister for Agriculture, and milk processors and the Department of Agriculture during the period 1 March and 12 November 2019.

*Statement by leave*: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

24 **Retail and fast food workers**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators O’Neill, Farrell, Polley, Ciccone and Marielle Smith, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 237—That the Senate—

(a) recognises that:
   (i) 85% of retail and fast food workers have experienced abuse from customers at work,
   (ii) for retail and fast food workers, this abuse can severely impact their physical and psychological health and it cannot continue,
   (iii) the Christmas holidays period is the busiest time for retail workers, and
   (iv) every worker has the right to be able to do their job in a safe environment; and

(b) acknowledges the work of the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees’ Association in representing its members in retail and fast food, and advocating for industry changes to ensure that customers cannot continue this behaviour and build better protections for retail and fast food workers.
Leave refused: Senator Faruqi sought leave to move an amendment to the motion, and to make a statement. Objections were raised and leave was not granted.

Question put and passed.

25 Energy Retail Code

Senator Waters, also on behalf of Senator Walsh, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 239—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) in May 2019, the Victorian Essential Services Commission agreed to update its Energy Retail Code (the Code) to improve protections for customers affected by family violence, with effect from 1 January 2020,

(ii) changes to the Code implement a recommendation of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, and were developed in consultation with energy and community sector participants, and

(iii) the revised Code will provide practical support and protection to those experiencing domestic and family violence by requiring energy providers to:

(A) adopt policies to assist customers affected by family violence, including through consideration for hardship programs,

(B) provide customers experiencing family violence with flexible assistance in managing their personal and financial security,

(C) develop policies to ensure the privacy of contact details are protected in a situation where a customer is escaping a family violence situation, and

(D) provide comprehensive and ongoing training to all responsible staff regarding family violence;

(b) commends the Victorian Government and the Essential Services Commission for adopting these measures; and

(c) calls on the Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction to discuss the development of a national framework of Family Violence Support Provisions for Energy Retailers with Energy Ministers at the upcoming COAG Energy Council Meeting.

Question put and passed.

26 Environment—Bushfires

Senator Duniam, also on behalf of Senators Askew, Abetz, Chandler and Colbeck, Bilyk, Brown, Polley, Urquhart, Lambie, McKim and Whish-Wilson, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 240—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) the devastating impact of bushfires currently burning across Australia,

(ii) the tragic loss of life, loss of and damage to property, and the impact on the livelihoods and communities of many Australians, and
(iii) the extraordinary resilience of these communities and emergency service personnel in responding to these tragic and challenging circumstances;

(b) acknowledges the immense risk being taken by our firefighting personnel, both paid and voluntary; and

(c) particularly acknowledges the Tasmanian firefighting personnel from the Tasmanian Fire Service, Parks and Wildlife Services and Sustainable Timbers Tasmania assisting in New South Wales, which is a great representation of the Australian spirit of helping out when needed.

Question put and passed.

27 Governor-General Amendment (Cessation of Allowances in the Public Interest) Bill 2019

Senator Siewert, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 241—That the following bill be introduced:

A Bill for an Act to amend the Governor-General Act 1974, and for related purposes.

Question put and passed.

Senator Siewert presented the bill and moved—That this bill may proceed without formalities and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

Senator Siewert moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

*Explanatory memorandum*: Senator Siewert, by leave, tabled an explanatory memorandum relating to the bill.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Siewert in continuation.

28 Transgender Awareness Week

Senator Siewert, at the request of Senators Rice and Dodson and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 242—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) this week is Transgender Awareness Week, and

(ii) Transgender Awareness Week is an opportunity to learn about gender diversity, work to remove all forms of discrimination against transgender and gender diverse people, and commit to being better allies; and

(b) calls on all parliamentarians to:

(i) commit to learning more about the lives and experiences of transgender and gender diverse people,

(ii) elevate the voices of transgender and gender diverse people, especially during Transgender Awareness Week, and

(iii) support the provision of essential health, social, cultural, and community services for trans and gender diverse people and their families, delivered with the meaningful input and involvement of these communities.

Question put.
The Senate divided—

AYES, 49

Senators—

Antic  Fawcett  McCarthy  Sheldon
Askew  Fierravanti-Wells  McDonald  Siewert
Ayres  Gallacher  McKit  Smith, Dean*
Bilyk  Gallacher  McMahon  Smith, Marielle
Bragg  Green  O’Sullivan  Steele-John
Brockman  Griff  Paterson  Sterling
Carr  Hanson-Young  Patrick  Urquhart
Chandler  Henderson  Pratt  Van
Ciccone  Hughes  Rennick  Walsh
Davey  Hume  Ruston  Waters
Di Natale  Kitching  Ryan  Watt
Duniam  Lines  Scarr  Whish-Wilson
Faruqi

NOES, 3

Senators—

Bernardi  Hanson*  Roberts

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

29 ABC Budget

Senator Hanson-Young amended general business notice of motion no. 243 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) since 2013, more than $300 million has been cut from the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) by the Coalition Government,

(ii) the ABC has confirmed it will not buy the non-commercial rights to next year’s Olympic Games in Tokyo, meaning there will be no live broadcast for the first time since 1952, and

(iii) the ABC has cited ‘budget pressures’ as being behind the decision; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to provide stable and adequate funding to the ABC.

Statements by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) and Senator Roberts, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.
30 Environment and Communications References Committee—Proposed reference—Murray-Darling River water allocations

The Chair of the Environment and Communications References Committee (Senator Hanson-Young) pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—
That the following matter be referred to the Environment and Communications References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 March 2020:
The deal struck between the Federal Government and the South Australian Government for 100GL of Murray-Darling River water to be cut from South Australia’s allocation, and the Commonwealth to fund the increased use of the State’s desalination plant to instead provide the same amount of water to the State, with particular reference to:
(a) the consequences for the river system of taking 100GL plus conveyance water from downstream flows;
(b) the mechanisms for ensuring that the water that South Australia is forgoing is actually delivered as intended, such as to small farmers to grow fodder;
(c) the checks and transparency measures to ensure the program is not rorted or exploited;
(d) whether the 100GL could have been delivered to New South Wales and Victorian farmers by a means other than reducing South Australia’s allocation, and whether that would have been more cost-effective;
(e) the South Australian-commissioned desalination feasibility report;
(f) whether $88.4 million to help offset costs of running the South Australian desalination plant is the most efficient and cost-effective measure to help farmers feed their stock;
(g) legal provisions that allow Commonwealth and state governments to buy and sell water outside the provisions of the Water Act 2007; and
(h) any other related matters.

Statements by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) and Senator Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put.
The Senate divided—

AYES, 12

Senators—
Di Natale  Hanson  Patrick  Steele-John
Faruqi  Hanson-Young  Roberts  Waters
Griff  McKim  Siewert*  Whish-Wilson
NOES, 43

Senators—

Abetz          Davey          Lines          Scarr
Antic          Duniam         McCarthy       Seselja
Askew          Fawcett        McDonald       Sheldon
Ayres          Fierravanti-Wells McMahon       Smith, Dean
Bernardi       Gallacher      O’Sullivan     Smith, Marielle
Bilyk          Gallagher      Paterson       Sterle
Bragg          Green          Polley         Stoker
Brockman       Henderson      Pratt          Urquhart*
Carr           Hughes         Rennick        Van
Chandler        Hume           Ruston         Walsh
Ciccone        Kitching       Ryan

* Tellers

Question negatived.

31 Native forest logging

Senator Siewert, at the request of Senator Rice and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 218—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) the Victorian Government’s announcement last week that they intend to end native forest logging in Victoria by 2030,

(ii) that clear-fell logging of public native forests continues in Western Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, and continues to receive significant public subsidy, and

(iii) that plantation-sourced wood and fibre makes up 88% of Australia’s timber output; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to:

(i) take national leadership to halt destructive logging and protect native forests for their values as complex ecosystems, including wildlife habitat, water supply, carbon storage and regional tourism, and

(ii) establish a national aim of phasing out native forest logging, and for plantations and farm forestry to provide 100% Australian-grown wood and fibre.

Statements by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) and Senator Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Leave refused: Senator Roberts sought leave to make a statement relating to the motion. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Question put and negatived.
Gender and sexuality census questions—Order for production of documents

Senator Siewert, at the request of Senator Rice and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 219—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer, by 28 November 2019:

(a) a copy of the unused census test form, including new questions on gender and sexuality;
(b) any analysis undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as to whether these questions contribute to an understanding of the health needs, outcomes and wellbeing of the LGBTIQ+ community; and
(c) any communications between Ministers or their offices and the Australian Bureau of Statistics in relation to these questions.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

Climate crisis

Senator Faruqi, also on behalf of Senator Waters, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 225—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:
   (i) states of emergency have been declared in New South Wales and Queensland due to catastrophic bushfire risk,
   (ii) lives have been lost, more than 150 homes have been destroyed, and almost 1,000,000 hectares of land in New South Wales have been razed since the start of this year’s unprecedented bushfire season,
   (iii) in New South Wales, the Greater Sydney and Hunter areas are set to experience catastrophic fire conditions for the first time on record,
   (iv) in Queensland, a state of emergency has been declared in 42 local government areas across the south east and central Queensland, with at least 11,000 hectares and more than a dozen homes lost,
   (v) the climate crisis is making bushfires like these more frequent and more intense, and making fire seasons longer and more dangerous each year, and
   (vi) burning coal, oil and gas is dangerously heating our planet, and Australia is the third largest exporter of carbon pollution in the world;
(b) expresses its whole-hearted support for communities across New South Wales and Queensland devastated by these raging bushfires;
(c) thanks the courageous firefighters and emergency services for their service to communities in need; and
(d) calls on the Federal Government to:
   (i) act decisively to build resilience in communities, and
(ii) declare a climate emergency.

_Statements by leave:_ The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) and Senator Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

_Leave refused:_ Senator Faruqi sought leave to make a statement relating to the motion. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

**AYES, 10**

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**NOES, 47**

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* Tellers

Question negatived.

### 34 Great Australian Bight

Senator Hanson-Young, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 224—That the Senate notes that:

(a) Norwegian company Equinor has an application before the National Offshore Petroleum Safety Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) to drill for oil in the Great Australian Bight;

(b) NOPSEMA has rejected Equinor’s environment plan stating that Equinor must provide it with further information about matters relating to consultation, source control, oil spill risk, and matters protected under Part 3 of the _Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999_;

(c) modelling commissioned by The Australia Institute shows Equinor will pay the Norwegian Government more than it will pay in Australian Government taxes, and up to 27 times more than it will pay to the South Australian Government;

(d) if Equinor’s application is ultimately approved by NOPSEMA, a foreign-owned company will therefore take the vast majority of financial gains while exploiting and putting at risk our precious marine and coastal environment, and tens of thousands of tourism and fishing industry jobs; and
(e) the ecological and environmental significance of the Great Australian Bight is, in fact, priceless.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 13

Senators—

Di Natale  Hanson-Young  Patrick  Steele-John
Faruqi    Lamble        Roberts        Waters
Griff     McKim         Siewert*       Whish-Wilson
Hanson    

NOES, 42

Senators—

Abetz     Duniam        McCarthy       Scarr
Antic     Fawcett       McDonald       Sheldon
Askew     Fieravanti-Wells  McMahon       Smith, Dean
Bernardi  Gallacher     O'Sullivan     Smith, Marielle
Bilyk     Gallagher      Paterson       Sterle
Bragg     Green         Polley         Stoker
Brockman  Henderson     Pratt          Urquhart*
Carr      Hughes        Rennick        Van
Chandler  Hume          Ruston         Walsh
Ciccione  Kitching      Ryan           Watt
Davey     Lines          

* Tellers

Question negatived.

35 **Cruelty to race horses**

Senator Faruqi, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 227—That the Senate—

(a) notes that on 17 October 2019, 7.30 revealed that:

(i) horses bred for racing, and subject to interstate trade, are being sent to knackeries and abattoirs to be slaughtered,

(ii) the horse racing industry produced more than 14,000 foals in the last financial year,

(iii) footage of horses matched to the national industry's official record of thoroughbreds – the Australian Stud Book – showed around 300 racehorses, representing almost $5 million in prize money, were detected at Meramist Abattoir in Queensland in just 22 days alone,

(iv) horses like Tahitian Black, who won $400,000 in prize money, were trialled and raced dozens of times for people to wager on for sport, and have been discarded at knackeries and used for pet food, and

(v) thoroughbred race horses as young as two years old, fillies and colts, and the brood mares that produced them, are ending up at slaughter houses and knackeries; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to request His Excellency the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia to issue Letters Patent to establish a royal commission to inquire into cruelty to race horses.
Statements by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) and Senator Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put.
The Senate divided—

AYES, 10

Senators—

Di Natale  Hanson-Young  Siewert*  Waters
Faruqi    McKim        Steele-John  Whish-Wilson
Griff     Patrick      

NOES, 45

Senators—

Abetz    Fawcett  Lines  Ryan
Antic    Fierravanti-Wells  McCarthy  Scarr
Askew    Gallagher  McDonald  Sheldon
Bernardi Gallagher  McMahon  Smith, Dean
Bilyk    Green      O’Sullivan  Smith, Marielle
Bragg    Hanson    Paterson  Sterle
Brockman Henderson  Polley  Stoker
Carr     Hughes      Pratt  Urquhart*
Chandler  Hume    Rennick  Van
Ciccone  Kitching  Roberts  Walsh
Davey  Lambie  Ruston  Watt
Duniam

* Tellers

Question negatived.

36 Clean State report

Senator Steele-John, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 234—That the Senate—

(a) notes that, in October 2019, the Conservation Council of Western Australia released its ‘Clean State’ report, which found that:

(i) LNG production in Western Australia (WA) is the fastest-growing pollution source in Australia, and has been the primary driver of recent national emissions growth,

(ii) the rapid expansion in LNG production in WA, in combination with inadequate carbon pollution controls, has had a dramatic impact on the State’s total emissions – while all other States’ emissions are falling, WA’s have risen by 23% since 2005,

(iii) Chevron and Woodside are responsible for most of this pollution and there are no effective controls on their operations,

(iv) over the next 12 years, the total cumulative emissions from WA’s five current LNG facilities (384Mt) will cancel out the entire amount of abatement expected to be delivered under the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) (375Mt), and that at a total cost of $4.55 billion the ERF is effectively an Australian taxpayer-funded offset program for Chevron and Woodside’s operations to 2031,

(v) offsetting LNG pollution in WA would create 4000 jobs, and
(vi) there is no such thing as clean gas; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to:
   (i) acknowledge the ‘clean gas myth’, and
   (ii) commit to moving away from extracting and exporting LNG.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—
Di Natale  Hanson-Young  Siewert*  Waters
Faruqi    McKim       Steele-John  Whish-Wilson

NOES, 43

Senators—
Abetz     Fawcett    Kitching  Ryan
Antic     Fieravanti-Wells  Lambie  Scarr
Askew     Gallagher  McDonald  Seselja
Bernardi  Gallagher  McMahon  Smith, Dean
Bragg     Green      O'Sullivan  Sterle
Brockman  Griff     Paterson  Stoker
Carr      Hanson     Patrick  Urquhart*
Chandler  Henderson  Pratt    Van
Ciccone   Hughes     Rennick  Walsh
Davey     Hume       Roberts  Watt
Duniam    Keneally  Ruston

*Tellers

Question negatived.

37 Specialist eye services

Senator Griff, also on behalf of Senators Wong, Marielle Smith, Gallacher and Farrell, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 233—That the Senate—

(a) congratulates all finalists and recipients of the 2020 South Australian of the Year awards;
(b) further congratulates eye surgeon and blindness prevention pioneer, Dr James Muecke, AM, for being honoured as South Australian of the Year for 2020;
(c) recognises that Dr Muecke, AM, has dedicated his working life to fighting blindness prevention and ophthalmic research;
(d) notes that in 2000, Dr Muecke, AM, co-founded Vision Myanmar at the South Australian Institute of Ophthalmology, a $1 million program that has developed and operated eye health and blindness initiatives in the Southeast Asian nation;
(e) further notes that Dr Muecke, AM, is the founder and chairman of Sight for All, a social impact organisation which aims to create a world where everyone can see;
(f) acknowledges that Sight for All creates low-cost programs to fight blindness through research, education and infrastructure, and is closely involved in projects operating in Ethiopia, nine Asian countries, and in mainstream and Aboriginal communities across Australia;
(g) notes that, according to the Institute of Health and Welfare, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over the age of 40 years have 6 times the rate of blindness of other Australians, and that 94% of vision loss in Indigenous Australians is preventable or treatable; and

(h) calls on the Federal Government to correct the marked under-resourcing of specialist eye services provided to remote and disadvantaged communities, when compared with the national average.

Question put and passed.

38 **Newstart and Youth Allowance**

Senator Siewert, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 245—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) the 2019 Anglicare Rental Affordability Snapshot found that there were no affordable properties in any capital city for a single person on Newstart or Youth Allowance,

(ii) the low level of appropriate and affordable properties available to rent for households on the Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance strongly indicates the likelihood that many of those households will be living in housing stress or housing that is not appropriate,

(iii) the lack of affordable housing means that people on Newstart and Youth Allowance are spending a disproportionately high percentage of their income support on housing, resulting in them not being able to afford other essentials like food, energy and health, and

(iv) poverty is a well-established social determinant of health, including psychological health, and persistent poverty plays a demonstrable role in increasing levels of psychological distress; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to immediately increase Newstart and Youth Allowance to allow people in our community to have dignity of choice and to help address housing stress.

Question put and passed.

39 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Aspects of road safety in Australia—Government response—Order for production of documents**

Senator Sterle, also on behalf of Senator Gallacher, amended general business notice of motion no. 231 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) the Government’s failure to provide a response to the reports of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee (the Committee) on aspects of road safety in Australia,
(ii) that, in 2018, the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation and References Committees each sent a letter to the Minister, drawing attention to the Committee’s reports into aspects of road safety in Australia,

(iii) that the Committee received correspondence in reply from the Minister, advising that the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development was ‘consulting with other portfolios to finalise the Australian Government response to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee inquiry into aspects of road safety in Australia’,

(iv) that it has now been a further nine months since the Minister’s advice to the Committee that a government response to its road safety reports was being finalised, and a government response has still not been presented to the Senate, and

(v) significant concern about this lack of response, given the importance of improving road safety in Australia and preventing unnecessary deaths on our roads;

(b) calls on the Federal Government to respond to the Committee’s recommendations in reports presented in 2016 and 2017, so that the recently established Joint Select Committee on Road Safety can properly consider the best ways to reduce road accident rates and deaths on Australian roads; and

(c) requires the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development to table, by no later than 3.30 pm on 14 November 2019, the government response to the Committee’s reports.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

40 **Exploitation of migrant workers**

Senator Sheldon, also on behalf of Senator Faruqi, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 232—

That the Senate—

(a) recognises that there is a crisis in Australia in the exploitation of migrant workers;

(b) notes the findings in a report, dated November 2017, *Wage theft in Australia: Findings of the National Temporary Migrant Work Survey*, authored by the Migrant Worker Justice Initiative, University of New South Wales and University of Technology Sydney, that include:

(i) two-thirds of migrant workers reporting that their employer, at one point or another, failed to provide a payslip – with 44% reporting that they had never received a payslip for their work,

(ii) 28% of workers in the hospitality industry experiencing their employer confiscating their passport,

(iii) 30% of survey participants earning $12 per hour or less – this is approximately half the minimum wage for a casual employee in many of the jobs in which temporary migrants work, and
(iv) 46% of participants earning $15 per hour or less;

(c) notes an October 2018 report, by the Migrant Worker Justice Initiative which found that fewer than one in 10 (9%) migrant workers took action to recover unpaid wages, even though most know that they were being underpaid;

(d) commends UnionsNSW and the Immigration Advice and Rights Centre for their Visa Assist program which provides free legal advice and assistance to migrant union members; and

(e) notes that, despite accepting all the recommendations contained in the report of the Migrant Workers’ Taskforce, released on 7 March 2019, the Federal Government has failed to act on recommendations 3 to 9, 11 to 13 and 18 to 22.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Leave refused: Senator Faruqi sought leave to make a statement relating to the motion. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 35

Ayres                Gallagher             McCarthy        Smith, Marielle
Bilyk                Green                 McKim           Steele-John
Brown                Griff                 O’Neill         Sterle
Carr                 Hanson                Patrick         Urquhart*
Chisholm             Hanson-Young          Polley          Walsh
Ciccone              Keneally              Pratt           Waters
Di Natale            Kitching              Roberts         Watt
Faruqi               Lambie                Sheldon         Whish-Wilson
Gallacher            Lines                 Siewert

NOES, 31

Abetz                Cash                  Hume            Ruston
Antic                Chandler             McDonald        Ryan
Askew                Davey                 McGrath         Scarr
Bernardi             Duniam                McMahon         Seselja
Birmingham           Fawcett               O’Sullivan       Smith, Dean*
Bragg                Fierravanti-Wells     Paterson         Stoker
Brockman             Henderson             Rennick         Van
Canavan              Hughes                Reynolds

* Tellers

Question agreed to.
41 **Bradfield scheme**

The Leader of Pauline Hanson’s One Nation (Senator Hanson), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 244—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) the statement made by the Queensland Premier, Ms Annastacia Palaszczuk, reported in the *Brisbane Times* on 30 October 2019, indicating she would be open to discussing the development of a ‘smaller version of the Bradfield scheme’ with Prime Minister Scott Morrison, and

(ii) that, on 1 November 2019, the *Courier Mail* reported that LNP Leader, Ms Deb Frecklington, has committed to an updated version of the Bradfield Scheme in the form of a ‘multibillion-dollar water scheme that could drought-proof parched western Queensland’; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to take the necessary steps to ensure the construction of a Bradfield-type scheme can begin, in Queensland, as swiftly as possible.

*Statements by leave:* The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) and Senators Bernardi, Gallagher and Waters, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

*Leave refused:* Senator Hanson sought leave to make a statement relating to the motion. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

### AYES, 31

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Question negatived.
42 Kashmir Valley

Motion determined as not formal: Senator Faruqi requested that general business notice of motion no. 238 standing in her name for today, relating to Kashmir Valley, be taken as formal. An objection was raised and the motion was not proceeded with as a formal motion.

Statements by leave: Senator Faruqi, the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) and Senator Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

43 Discussion of matter of public importance—Rural and Regional Australia

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Fawcett) informed the Senate that Senator Gallagher had proposed that the following matter of public importance be submitted to the Senate for discussion:

The failure of the Coalition Government to deliver for rural and regional Australia.

The proposal was supported by four senators and the matter was discussed.

44 Notices

Senator Patrick: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) Australia has a propensity to simply export its raw materials and commodities to countries that then profit by doing the value add and selling it back to us, and

(ii) this approach denies Australia economic activity and job opportunities; and

(b) calls on the Australian Government to adjust policy and support settings to ensure we value add before exporting. (general business notice of motion no. 263)

Senators Watt, Green, Chisholm, Ayres, Keneally, McAllister, O’Neill, Sheldon, Pratt, Sterle, Lines and Dodson: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) New South Wales and Queensland are currently in the midst of devastating bushfires,

(ii) these fires have led to three people tragically losing their lives, more than 30 people injured and over 170 homes destroyed,

(iii) well over 100 fires are burning across New South Wales and Queensland, and

(iv) New South Wales and Queensland remain in a State of Emergency, with severe fire dangers continuing today and expected to continue into the weekend;
(b) offers its condolences to the Australians who have lost their loved ones, and the Australians who have lost their homes;
(c) expresses its gratitude to the brave firefighters, both paid and voluntary, and emergency services personnel who are working through the day and night to keep communities safe; and
(d) urges those Australians in affected areas to listen to warnings and stay safe.

(General business notice of motion no. 264)

45 Australia’s Family Law System—Joint Select Committee—Document

Leave refused: Senator Waters sought leave to table a document relating to the Joint Select Committee on Australia’s Family Law System. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

46 Mr Julian Assange—Document

Senator Whish-Wilson, by leave, tabled the following document:

Mr Julian Assange—Petitioning document from approximately 201,500 signatories relating to the freedom of Julian Assange.

47 Documents—Consideration

The following document tabled on 12 November 2019 (see entry no. 2, 12 November 2019) was considered:

Status of government responses in the Senate to parliamentary committee reports as at 30 September 2019. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Urquhart. Consideration to resume on Thursday at general business.

48 Committee reports and government responses—Tabling and consideration

Senator Brockman, at the request of the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Fierravanti-Wells), tabled the following report:


Senator Brockman moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Question put and passed.

Senator Urquhart, at the request of the Chair of the Standing Committee of Senators’ Interests (Senator Bilyk), tabled the following report:


Senator Urquhart moved—That the Senate adopt the recommendation contained in the report.

Question put and passed.
Senator Urquhart, at the request of the Chair of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills (Senator Polley), tabled the following report:


Senator Brockman, on behalf of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security, tabled the following report and documents:


Senator Brockman, on behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, tabled the following report:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—187th report—Oil Stock Contracts – Hungary; MRA UK; Trade in Wine UK; MH17 Netherlands; Air Services: Thailand, Timor-Leste, PNG; Work Diplomatic Families – Italy; Double Taxation – Israel, dated October 2019.

The Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights (Senator Henderson), tabled the following report and documents:


Senator Henderson moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.
The following government responses presented out of sitting (see entry no. 2, 11 November 2019) were considered:

Economics References Committee—Report—Governance and operation of the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)—Government response. Motion to take note of report moved by Senator Urquhart. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Education and Employment References Committee—Report—Vocational education and training in South Australia—Government response. Motion to take note of report moved by Senator Urquhart. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

49 Answer to questions—Documents

The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) tabled the following document:

Answers to questions—Letters, dated 11 November 2019, from the Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business (Senator Cash) providing information concerning questions without notice—

Clinical health care standards—Question asked by Senator Griff on 16 October 2019—Letter to Senator Griff.

Recreational hunting and sport shooting—Question asked by Senator Faruqi on 17 October 2019—Letter to the President of the Senate.

50 Committee membership

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Brown) informed the Senate that the President had received letters nominating senators to be members of committees.

The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, moved—That senators be appointed to committees as follows:

Financial Technology and Regulatory Technology—Select Committee—

Appointed—Participating members: Senators Ayres, Bilyk, Brown, Carr, Chisholm, Ciccone, Dodson, Farrell, Gallacher, Gallagher, Green, Keneally, Kitching, Lines, McAllister, McCarthy, O’Neill, Polley, Pratt, Sheldon, Sterle, Urquhart, Watt and Wong

Implementation of the National Redress Scheme—Joint Select Committee—

Appointed—Senator Henderson.

Question put and passed.

51 Governor-General’s message—Assent to laws

A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was reported, informing the Senate that he had assented to the following laws:

12 November 2019—Message no. 39—

Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2019-2020 (Act no. 100, 2019)

Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2019-2020 (Act no. 101, 2019)

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act (No. 1) 2019-2020 (Act no. 102, 2019).
52 National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Streamlined Governance) Bill 2019

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam)—That this bill be now read a second time—and on the amendment moved by Senator Brown (see entry no. 4).

Debate resumed.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

**AYES, 33**

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**NOES, 32**

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*Tellers

Question agreed to.

Senator McCarthy moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add “and the further consideration of the bill be an order of the day for the first sitting day after the findings and recommendations of the 2019 review of the NDIS Act and the new NDIS Participant Service Guarantee are publicly released”.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

**AYES, 31**

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<th>Smith, Marielle</th>
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NOES, 34

Senators—
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Antic  Davey  McKenzie  Roberts
Askew  Duniam  McMahon  Ruston
Birmingham  Fawcett  O’Sullivan  Ryan
Bragg  Fierravanti-Wells  Paterson  Scarr
Brockman*  Griff  Patrick  Seselja
Canavan  Hanson  Payne  Stoker
Cash  Henderson  Rennick  Van
Chandler  Hume

* Tellers

Question negatived.
Main question, as amended, put.
The Senate divided—

AYES, 34

Senators—
Abetz  Colbeck  McDonald  Reynolds
Antic  Davey  McKenzie  Roberts
Askew  Duniam  McMahon  Ruston
Birmingham  Fawcett  O’Sullivan  Ryan
Bragg  Fierravanti-Wells  Paterson  Scarr
Brockman*  Griff  Patrick  Seselja
Canavan  Hanson  Payne  Stoker
Cash  Henderson  Rennick  Van
Chandler  Hume

NOES, 31

Senators—
Ayres  Gallacher  McAllister  Steele-John
Bilyk  Gallacher  McCarthy*  Sterle
Brown  Green  McKim  Urquhart
Carr  Hanson-Young  O’Neill  Walsh
Chisholm  Keneally  Pratt  Waters
Di Natale  Kitching  Sheldon  Watt
Dodson  Lambie  Siewert  Whish-Wilson
Faruqi  Lines  Smith, Marielle

* Tellers

Question agreed to.
Bill read a second time.
After 7.20 pm—

53 **Adjournment**  
The President proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
The Senate adjourned at 7.57 pm till Thursday, 14 November 2019 at 9.30 am.

54 **Attendance**  
Present, all senators.

**Richard Pye**  
Clerk of the Senate