



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BUSINESS

SPEECH

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Questioner
Speaker Abbott, Tony, MP

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Mr ABBOTT (Warringah—Leader of the House) (11.15 pm)—On indulgence, I will update the House on what is going on. I know that we are all eager to finish—and I wish I had better news—but my understanding of the situation at the moment is that we will shortly be dealing with the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002. That will go back to the Senate for further consideration. We are then required to deal with a message on the Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill (No. 2) 2002, which will go back to the Senate for further consideration. There are a couple of other messages of less import which will be bouncing backwards and forwards, but my understanding is that the Senate expects to be going until about three or four in the morning, and I fear that we are going to have to prepare for a long night—but at least it will be a long night and not a morning on top of a long night. I am sorry about that, but that is my understanding of the way things are at the moment.