HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PROOF
Federation Chamber
CONDOLENCES
Australian Bushfires
PROCEDURAL TEXT
Tuesday, 11 February 2020

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Australian Bushfires

Consideration resumed of the motion:

That the House:

(1) acknowledge the devastation across our nation occasioned by the bushfire season including the loss of 33 lives, the destruction of over 3,000 homes, the unimaginable loss of so much wildlife and the devastating impact on regional economies across Australia;

(2) extend its deepest sympathies to families who have lost loved ones and to those who have suffered injuries or loss;

(3) place on record its gratitude for the service of David Moresi, Geoffrey Keaton, Andrew O'Dwyer, Samuel McPaul, Bill Slade, Mat Kavanagh, Ian McBeth, Paul Hudson and Rick DeMorgan Jr, fire-fighters who lost their lives during the fires and extends its deepest condolences to their families;

(4) recognise the contribution of thousands of volunteer and career fire-fighters and the dedication of emergency services personnel across Australia;

(5) honour the contribution of 6,500 Australian Defence Force personnel, including 3,000 ADF reservists, and the work of Emergency Management Australia throughout the summer;

(6) recognise the generosity of individuals, families, schools, churches and religious groups, service clubs and businesses from across Australia and elsewhere in the world during the evacuations and following the fires;

(7) express its gratitude to Australia's friends, allies and neighbours who provided or offered support;

(8) recognise the unceasing efforts and close cooperation between state and local governments, demonstrating the strength of our Federation;

(9) commit itself to learning any lessons from this fire season; and

(10) pledge the full support of the Australian Parliament to assist affected areas to recover and rebuild.