



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



THE SENATE

DEATH PENALTY

SPEECH

Wednesday, 9 August 2006

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE

SPEECH

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Speaker	Stott Despoja, Sen Natasha	Question No.	

Senator STOTT DESPOJA (South Australia) (6.17 pm)—I, and also on behalf of Senators Humphries, Nettle and Payne, move:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) 11 July 2006 was the 15th anniversary of the entry into force of the United Nations' Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,
 - (ii) 57 countries have signed and ratified the Second Optional Protocol, including Australia, and
 - (iii) while Australia has ratified the Second Optional Protocol, this Parliament has not yet adopted the Protocol into domestic law;
- (b) reaffirms its opposition to capital punishment; and
- (c) on a bipartisan level, calls for the Australian Government, the Federal Parliament and the parliaments of the states and territories to work together to adopt the Second Optional Protocol into domestic law with binding force over the Commonwealth, the states and the territories.

Question agreed to.