



Senate Journals

No. 58: Thursday, 18 June 2020

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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.]

Civil Aviation Act 1988—

Civil Aviation Regulations 1988 and Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998—
Number of Cabin Attendants (Virgin Australia Airlines) Direction 2020—CASA
28/20 [F2020L00725].

Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998—

DAMP Organisations (Collecting and Screening of Oral Fluid and Urine
Body Samples Outside Capital City Areas) Exemption 2020—CASA
EX91/20 [F2020L00730].

Helicopter Aircrew Members Amendment Instrument 2020 (No. 1)—CASA
EX90/20 [F2020L00724].

*Competition and Consumer Act 2010—*Permanent Ban on Miniature Motorbikes
(Monkey Bikes) with Unsafe Design Features Repeal Notice 2019 [F2019L01634]—
Initial explanatory statement.

*Export Market Development Grants Act 1997—*Export Market Development Grants
(Export Performance Requirements) Amendment (2019-20 Grant Year) Instrument
2020 [F2020L00722].

Health Insurance Act 1973—

Health Insurance Legislation Amendment (Section 3C General Medical Services
– Drought Affected Areas) Determination 2020 [F2020L00721].

Health Insurance (Pathology Services Table) Amendment (Indexation)
Regulations 2020 [F2020L00728].

Health Insurance (Section 3C Midwife and Nurse Practitioner Services)
Determination 2020 [F2020L00732].

*Industry Research and Development Act 1986—*Industry Research and Development
(Empowering Business To Go Digital Program) Instrument 2020 [F2020L00731].

Navigation Act 2012—

Marine Order 47 (Offshore industry units) Amendment Order 2020—AMSA MO
2020/3 [F2020L00729].

Marine Order 58 (Safe management of vessels) 2020—AMSA MO 2020/2
[F2020L00723].

*Paid Parental Leave Act 2010—*Paid Parental Leave Amendment (Coronavirus
Economic Response) Rules 2020 [F2020L00726].

*Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995—*Dispensation Report—07/20.

Therapeutic Goods (Charges) Act 1989—Therapeutic Goods (Charges) Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Regulations 2020 [F2020L00727].

3 Committees—Leave to meet during sitting

Committees were authorised to hold private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sitting of the Senate today, as follows:

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—from 1 pm.

National Disability Insurance Scheme—Joint Standing Committee—from 3.30 pm.

4 Formal motions—Consideration—Temporary order

Leave refused: The Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters) sought leave to move a motion relating to general business notice of motion no. 705 standing in the names of Senators Cormann and Wong for today relating to the consideration of formal motions. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Proposed suspension of standing orders: Senator Waters, pursuant to contingent notice, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent her moving a motion relating to the consideration of a matter, namely a motion to give precedence to a motion relating to general business notice of motion no. 705.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the motion to suspend standing orders be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 11

Senators—

Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Rice	Waters
Faruqi	Lambie	Roberts	Whish-Wilson
Hanson	McKim	Siewert*	

NOES, 51

Senators—

Abetz	Colbeck	McAllister	Rennick
Antic	Cormann	McCarthy	Ryan
Askew	Davey	McDonald	Scarr
Ayres	Duniam	McGrath	Sheldon
Bilyk	Fierravanti-Wells	McKenzie	Smith, Dean
Birmingham	Gallagher	McLachlan	Sterle
Bragg	Gallagher	McMahon	Stoker
Brockman	Green	Molan	Urquhart
Brown	Henderson	O'Neill	Van
Canavan	Hughes	O'Sullivan	Walsh
Carr	Hume	Paterson	Watt
Chandler	Kitching	Patrick	Wong
Ciccione*	Lines	Payne	

* Tellers

Question negated.

Leave refused: Senator Cormann sought leave to move general business notice of motion no. 705 standing in his name and the name of Senator Wong for today relating to the consideration of formal motions. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Suspension of standing orders: Senator Cormann moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent general business notice of motion no. 705 being moved immediately and determined without amendment or debate.

Closure: Senator Cormann moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 49

Senators—

Abetz	Cormann	McAllister	Rennick
Antic	Davey	McCarthy	Ryan
Askew	Duniam	McDonald	Scarr
Ayres	Fierravanti-Wells	McGrath*	Sheldon
Bilyk	Gallacher	McKenzie	Smith, Dean
Birmingham	Gallagher	McLachlan	Sterle
Brockman	Green	McMahon	Stoker
Brown	Henderson	Molan	Urquhart
Canavan	Hughes	O'Neill	Van
Carr	Hume	O'Sullivan	Walsh
Chandler	Kitching	Paterson	Watt
Ciccone	Lines	Payne	Wong
Colbeck			

NOES, 12

Senators—

Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Patrick	Siewert*
Faruqi	Lambie	Rice	Waters
Hanson	McKim	Roberts	Whish-Wilson

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

Question—That the motion to suspend standing orders be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 49

Senators—

Abetz	Cormann	McAllister	Rennick
Antic	Davey	McCarthy	Ryan
Askew	Duniam	McDonald	Scarr
Ayres	Fierravanti-Wells	McGrath*	Sheldon
Bilyk	Gallacher	McKenzie	Smith, Dean
Birmingham	Gallagher	McLachlan	Sterle
Brockman	Green	McMahon	Stoker
Brown	Henderson	Molan	Urquhart
Canavan	Hughes	O'Neill	Van
Carr	Hume	O'Sullivan	Walsh
Chandler	Kitching	Paterson	Watt
Ciccone	Lines	Payne	Wong
Colbeck			

NOES, 12

Senators—

Di Natale
Faruqi
HansonHanson-Young
Lambie
McKimPatrick
Rice
RobertsSiewert*
Waters
Whish-Wilson** Tellers*

Question agreed to by an absolute majority, in accordance with standing order 209(1).

Senator Cormann moved:

- (1) That the following variations to the standing orders have effect as a temporary order until the last sitting day in June 2021:
 - (a) At the end of standing order 66, add:
 - (5) The following additional requirements apply to the consideration of general business notices of motion as formal motions:
 - (a) senators may make (or have made on their behalf) only one request for formality in any sitting week;
 - (b) no more than 12 motions may be dealt with as formal motions on any sitting day, comprising no more than four proposed by Government senators, four proposed by Opposition senators, and four proposed by minor party and independent senators;
 - (c) the motions to be considered shall be notified to the President; and
 - (d) the allocation of motions to be taken as formal amongst minor party and independent senators each day shall be determined by the President and, across the course of a sitting week, shall be as nearly as practicable proportional to the numbers of those minor party and independent senators in the Senate.
 - (6) The restrictions in paragraph (5) do not apply in respect of motions for the consideration of legislation (including the introduction of bills) or the conduct of Senate or committee business (including the appointment of a select committee).
 - (b) After standing order 76(7), insert:
 - (7A) A general business notice of motion shall not exceed 200 words, unless it is a motion:
 - (a) for the consideration of legislation or the conduct of Senate or committee business (including the appointment of a select committee); or
 - (b) proposing an order for the production of documents.
- (2) That the Procedure Committee review the operation of this order, and report to the Senate by the last sitting day in May 2021.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 49

Senators—

Abetz	Cormann	McAllister	Rennick
Antic	Davey	McCarthy	Ryan
Askew	Duniam	McDonald	Scarr
Ayres	Fierravanti-Wells	McGrath*	Sheldon
Bilyk	Gallacher	McKenzie	Smith, Dean
Birmingham	Gallagher	McLachlan	Sterle
Brockman	Green	McMahon	Stoker
Brown	Henderson	Molan	Urquhart
Canavan	Hughes	O'Neill	Van
Carr	Hume	O'Sullivan	Walsh
Chandler	Kitching	Paterson	Watt
Ciccone	Lines	Payne	Wong
Colbeck			

NOES, 12

Senators—

Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Patrick	Siewert*
Faruqi	Lambie	Rice	Waters
Hanson	McKim	Roberts	Whish-Wilson

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

Leave refused: Senator Waters sought leave to move a motion relating to the ability of crossbench senators to move motions. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Proposed suspension of standing orders: Senator Waters, pursuant to contingent notice, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent her moving a motion for the consideration of a matter, namely a motion to give precedence to a motion relating to the ability of crossbench senators to move motions.

Closure: The Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 48

Senators—

Abetz	Cormann	McAllister	Rennick
Antic	Davey	McCarthy	Ryan
Askew	Duniam	McDonald	Scarr
Ayres	Fierravanti-Wells	McGrath*	Sheldon
Bilyk	Gallacher	McKenzie	Smith, Dean
Birmingham	Gallagher	McLachlan	Sterle
Brockman	Green	McMahon	Stoker
Canavan	Henderson	Molan	Urquhart
Carr	Hughes	O'Neill	Van
Chandler	Hume	O'Sullivan	Walsh
Ciccone	Kitching	Paterson	Watt
Colbeck	Lines	Payne	Wong

NOES, 11

Senators—

Di Natale
Faruqi
HansonHanson-Young
Lambie
McKimRice
Roberts
Siewert*Waters
Whish-Wilson* *Tellers*

Question agreed to.

Question—That the motion to suspend standing orders be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 11

Senators—

Di Natale
Faruqi
HansonHanson-Young
Lambie
McKimRice
Roberts
Siewert*Waters
Whish-Wilson

NOES, 46

Senators—

Abetz
Antic
Askew
Ayres
Bilyk
Birmingham
Brockman
Canavan
Carr
Chandler
Cicccone*
ColbeckCormann
Davey
Duniam
Fierravanti-Wells
Gallacher
Gallagher
Green
Henderson
Hughes
Hume
Lines
McAllisterMcCarthy
McDonald
McGrath
McKenzie
McLachlan
Molan
O'Neill
O'Sullivan
Paterson
Payne
RennickRyan
Scarr
Sheldon
Smith, Dean
Sterle
Stoker
Urquhart
Van
Walsh
Watt
Wong* *Tellers*

Question negated.

Leave refused: Senator McKim sought leave to move a motion relating to the capacity of senators to raise matters of concern to their constituents. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

Proposed suspension of standing orders: Senator McKim moved— That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent him moving the motion.

Ruling of President: The President ruled the motion out of order, in accordance with earlier rulings against the obstruction of Senate business by the use of repeated motions to suspend standing orders.

5 Treasury Laws Amendment (Your Superannuation, Your Choice) Bill 2019

Order of the day read for the further consideration of the bill in committee of the whole.

In the committee

Consideration resumed of the bill.

Senator McAllister moved the following amendment:

Schedule 1, page 3 (before line 5), before the heading specifying *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*, insert:

Fair Work Act 2009

1A At the end of section 187

Add:

Requirement relating to restrictions of choice of superannuation fund

- (7) If the agreement includes a restriction on the choice of superannuation fund or funds available to employees, the FWC must be satisfied that the restriction is in the interests of the employees who will be covered by the agreement.
- (8) For the purposes of considering whether the restriction is in the interests of the employees, the FWC must consider:
 - (a) the extent to which the employers who will be covered by the agreement have complied, or are likely to comply, with the requirements of the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*; and
 - (b) the features of the proposed default superannuation fund or funds, including matters such as insurance; and
 - (c) any other relevant matters.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The committee divided—

AYES, 26

Senators—

Ayres	Faruqi	McAllister	Siewert
Bilyk	Gallacher	McCarthy*	Sterle
Brown	Gallagher	McKim	Walsh
Carr	Green	O'Neill	Waters
Chisholm	Hanson-Young	Rice	Watt
Ciccone	Lambie	Sheldon	Whish-Wilson
Di Natale	Lines		

NOES, 29

Senators—

Antic	Duniam	McKenzie	Rennick
Askew	Fierravanti-Wells	McLachlan	Reynolds
Birmingham	Henderson	Molan	Ryan
Brockman	Hughes	O'Sullivan	Scarr
Canavan	Hume	Paterson	Smith, Dean
Chandler	McDonald	Patrick	Stoker
Colbeck	McGrath*	Payne	Van
Davey			

* Tellers

Question negatived.

Senator Whish-Wilson moved the following amendments together by leave:

Schedule 1, item 6, page 4 (lines 3 and 4), omit the item, substitute:

6 Paragraph 32C(6)(h)

Repeal the paragraph, substitute:

- (h) an enterprise agreement:
 - (i) made before 1 July 2020; or
 - (ii) to which subsection (6AAA) applies; or

Schedule 1, item 7, page 4 (before line 7), before subsection 32C(6AA), insert:

- (6AAA) For the purposes of subparagraph (6)(h)(ii), this subsection applies to an enterprise agreement that provides for an employee to join a fund in relation to which:
- (a) the employee is eligible to become a defined benefit member; and
 - (b) either or both of the following are satisfied:
 - (i) the governing rules of the fund permit the employee, within a period specified within those rules, to choose not to remain a defined benefit member;
 - (ii) the employee may choose another fund.

Schedule 1, page 4 (after line 16), at the end of the Schedule, add:

8 At the end of section 32F

Add:

- (4) A fund (the *selected fund*) cannot become a chosen fund for an employee or a person who will become an employee under this section if the person has become or is eligible to become a defined benefit member pursuant to an arrangement of the kind referred to in paragraph 32C(6)(h).

9 Subsection 32NA(2)

After “An employer is not required under section 32N to give an employee”, insert “or a person who is eligible to become an employee”.

10 Paragraph 32NA(2)(a)

After “the employer is making”, insert “or will make”.

11 Paragraph 32NA(2)(b)

After “the contributions are made”, insert “or will be made”.

12 Subsection 32NA(9)

After “An employer is not required under section 32N to give an employee”, insert “or a person who is eligible to become an employee”.

13 Paragraph 32NA(9)(a)

After “the employee is”, insert “or will become”.

Debate ensued.

Closure: Senator Whish-Wilson moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The committee divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—

Di Natale
Faruqi

Hanson-Young
McKim

Rice
Siewert*

Waters
Whish-Wilson

NOES, 31

Senators—

Antic
Askew
Brockman
Canavan
Chandler
Colbeck
Cormann
Davey

Duniam
Fierravanti-Wells
Gallagher
Henderson
Hughes
Hume
McAllister
McCarthy*

McDonald
McGrath
McKenzie
McLachlan
Molan
O'Sullivan
Paterson
Rennick

Ruston
Ryan
Scarr
Seselja
Smith, Dean
Stoker
Van

* Tellers

Question negatived.

Debate continued.

At 11.45 am: The committee reported progress.

6 Notices

The Chair of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation (Senator Fierravanti-Wells): To move 15 sitting days after today—That the Defence Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Regulations 2020, made under the *Defence Act 1903*, be disallowed [F2020L00120].

Senator Steele-John: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was ratified by Australia in 2008, and states that governments have an obligation to ensure that disabled people are fully included in all aspects of social, economic, and political life,
- (ii) the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is underpinned by the rights in the CRPD and designed to provide access to supports that are deemed 'reasonable and necessary' to ensure disabled people are fully supported to have everything they need to live a full and equal life, and participate in the community,
- (iii) the desexualisation of disabled people is a social belief that has denied disabled people full bodily autonomy and has been a key factor in a lot of the abuse situations,
- (iv) the NDIS has perpetuated this social belief by failing to develop a comprehensive sexuality policy for NDIS participants that encompasses and supports individual sexual needs and goals at all life and development stages,

- (v) over 50 disability organisations have called for the National Disability Insurance Agency to develop a comprehensive sexuality policy to continue reasonable and necessary support for sexual expression through NDIS funding,
- (vi) disabled people, like the rest of our community, want to enjoy consensual intimate experiences, as part of exploring sexual expression, and
- (vii) giving disabled people the right to exercise choice and control over the supports they need to achieve the goals they have identified is the primary objective the community expects the NDIS to deliver on;
- (b) acknowledges that the Federal Court of Australia ruled in favour of supporting a disabled person's access to sex-related supports within their NDIS plans (see *National Disability Insurance Agency v WRMF* [2020] FCAFC 79); and
- (c) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (i) uphold the Federal Court ruling in support of disabled people on the NDIS using their plans to access sex-based supports consistent with their goals and what is 'reasonable and necessary', and
 - (ii) work with disabled people and their organisations, and the community, to develop a comprehensive sexuality policy for the NDIS. (*general business notice of motion no. 710*)

Senator Steele-John: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) motions are an important democratic function of the Senate that allow members of the cross bench to:
 - (A) formally request documents,
 - (B) ask a Minister or other member of the Government to make a formal statement,
 - (C) raise matters that are important to the community, and
 - (D) refer legislation to committees for further scrutiny, and
 - (ii) limiting the number of motions that can be put by the cross bench on any given day is undemocratic; and
- (b) calls on the Government to immediately repeal the changes to standing order 66 in the name of democracy. (*general business notice of motion no. 711*)

Senator Steele-John: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) decades of accelerating militarism from the United States of America (USA) and increasingly unstable rhetoric from President Trump has:
 - (A) led to the breakdown of a number of global trade relationships (notably the US-China relationship),
 - (B) inflamed tensions in the Middle East (notably with Iran),
 - (C) diminished the effectiveness of international treaties (notably JCPOA),
 - (D) defunded critical organisations during a global pandemic (notably the World Health Organization), and

- (E) undermined international justice systems (notably by approving sanctions on the ICC),
- (ii) the values held by President Trump and the accelerating militarism of the USA has led the alliance to become increasingly dangerous for Australia,
- (iii) the ongoing rotation of US Troops in the Top End during a global pandemic has reignited a domestic conversation about the benefits of our military cooperation with the USA, and
- (iv) President Trump's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic has been nothing short of a public health disaster for the USA and ongoing civil unrest over police brutality, and the treatment of African Americans at the hands of police, has ignited a larger conversation about the use of domestic force – a conversation that President Trump has deliberately inflamed, mainly over Twitter; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) rethink the alliance with the USA, and
 - (ii) develop an independent foreign policy for Australia that best serves our interests. (*general business notice of motion no. 712*)

Senator Steele-John: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) lethal autonomous weapons are causing much concern in the international community,
 - (ii) the Group of Governmental Experts meeting periodically at the United Nations have held discussions centred around human control and compliance to international humanitarian law with many states (countries) citing these as real concerns,
 - (iii) at a Group of Governmental Experts' meeting in March 2019, the statement by the International Committee of the Red Cross asserted: 'In the view of the ICRC, a weapon system beyond human control would be unlawful by its very nature', and
 - (iv) removing human control from the decision-making loop of lethal weapons systems can cause catastrophic harm; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (i) rule out developing weapons which remove human control from the decision-making loop of lethal weapons systems, and
 - (ii) support progress towards developing international legal instruments (binding or non-binding) at the inter-governmental level, in particular at talks of the Group of Governmental Experts, on autonomous weapons systems. (*general business notice of motion no. 713*)

Senators Faruqi and Steele-John: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Government is leaving young people behind in the jobs and economic crisis due to COVID-19 and that:
 - (i) 23% of all employed young people worked fewer hours in April 2020, compared to 4% in February 2020 and 6% in March 2020,

- (ii) the youth unemployment rate rose to 13.8% in April which is more than double that of the general population,
- (iii) young people account for 46% of short term casuals, who are excluded from the JobKeeper Payment, and
- (iv) reducing the JobKeeper Payment for low income earners will hit young people the hardest; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (i) maintain the JobKeeper Payment at \$1,500 per fortnight, including for low income earners,
 - (ii) expand the JobKeeper Payment to all workers, including casuals and temporary visa holders, and
 - (iii) extend the JobKeeper Payment beyond September. (*general business notice of motion no. 714*)

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

- (a) notes that the Government:
 - (i) has taken up to \$1.5 billion from Australians through the Prime Minister's illegal robodebt scheme,
 - (ii) refuses to answer questions about the amount of interest that will be payable on the funds illegally taken by the Government,
 - (iii) ignored between 200 and 500 decisions and multiple settlements by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal advising the Government that the Prime Minister's robodebt scheme was illegal, and
 - (iv) continues to cover up the details of the Prime Minister's illegal robodebt scheme, including by defying Senate orders for the production of documents; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) immediately pay back the money taken from the victims of the Prime Minister's illegal robodebt scheme, with interest,
 - (ii) acknowledge that it owes the victims of the Prime Minister's illegal robodebt scheme a duty of care to behave lawfully,
 - (iii) comply with Senate orders for the production of documents and provide all available information relating to the scheme, and
 - (iv) take full responsibility for the harm caused to victims of the Prime Minister's illegal robodebt scheme, and the significant erosion of public trust that has resulted from this abuse of executive power. (*general business notice of motion no. 715*)

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

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Prime Minister asserted in a speech at the Lowy Institute in October 2019 that: 'We should avoid any reflex towards a negative globalism that coercively seeks to impose a mandate from an often ill-defined borderless global community',

- (ii) on 16 April 2020, Home Affairs Minister Dutton said: ‘There are other bodies within the UN that I would argue aren’t acting in the global interest, aren’t acting certainly in the interests of countries like Australia’, and
- (iii) in her speech on 16 June 2020, Foreign Minister Payne said: ‘the pandemic has brought into stark relief the major role of international institutions in addressing and coordinating a global response to a global problem, across multiple lines of effort’ and that multilateral organisations ‘promote universal values and play critical roles in responding to emerging global challenges, from the regulation of cyber security and maintaining a peaceful outer space, to outbreaks of Ebola and COVID-19’; and
- (b) commends Senator Payne for affirming that effective multilateralism is a key Australian national interest. (*general business notice of motion no. 716*)

Senator Steele-John, pursuant to standing order 76(6), gave a notice of motion in general terms, as follows: To move on the next day of sitting—That a bill to repeal matters relating to the Australia-Hong Kong Free Trade Agreement be introduced. (*general business notice of motion no. 717*)

Senators Waters and Rice: To move on the next day of sitting—

- (1) That a select committee, to be known as the Select Committee on Allocation of Government Grants, be established to inquire into and report on the administration of government grant programs during and after election campaigns, including but not limited to the Community Development Grants, Urban Congestion – Commuter Car Park Fund, Environmental Restoration Grants, and Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Export Hubs and Drought Communities Fund, with particular reference to:
 - (a) program design and guidelines, including eligibility criteria;
 - (b) management and assessment processes;
 - (c) the use of closed grant programs which are not open to public applications, but require nomination by a Minister;
 - (d) adherence to published assessment processes and program criteria, including the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines;
 - (e) the relationship between election commitments and grant allocations;
 - (f) demonstration of value for money;
 - (g) efforts to influence votes through grant allocation;
 - (h) the role of Ministers in determining awards of grants;
 - (i) measures to manage the risk of politicisation of funding outcomes and announcements; and
 - (j) any related programs or matters.
- (2) That the committee present its final report on or before 30 August 2021.

- (3) That the committee consist of 6 senators, as follows:
 - (a) 2 nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate;
 - (b) 2 nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate;
 - (c) 1 nominated by the Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate; and
 - (d) 1 nominated by a minority party or independent Senator.
- (4) That:
 - (a) participating members may be appointed to the committee on the nomination of the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate or any minority party or independent senator;
 - (b) participating members may participate in hearings of evidence and deliberations of the committee, and have all the rights of members of the committee, but may not vote on any questions before the committee; and
 - (c) a participating member shall be taken to be a member of a committee for the purpose of forming a quorum of the committee if a majority of members of the committee is not present.
- (5) That the committee may proceed to the dispatch of business notwithstanding that not all members have been duly nominated and appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy.
- (6) That the committee elect as chair the member nominated by the Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate and as deputy chair one of the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (7) That the deputy chair shall act as chair when the chair is absent from a meeting of the committee or the position of chair is temporarily vacant.
- (8) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, have a casting vote.
- (9) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to refer to any such subcommittee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider.
- (10) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to send for and examine persons and documents, to move from place to place, to sit in public or in private, notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament or dissolution of the House of Representatives, and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken and such interim recommendations as it may deem fit.
- (11) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and be empowered to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee with the approval of the President.
- (12) That the committee be empowered to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it, and a daily Hansard be published of such proceedings as take place in public. (*general business notice of motion no. 718*)

Contingent notices of motion: Senator Lambie gave contingent notices of motion, as follows:

No. 1—To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the conduct of the business of the Senate or to provide for the consideration of any matter.

No. 2—To move (contingent on any senator objecting to a motion being taken as formal)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the motion being moved immediately and determined without amendment or debate.

No. 3—To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to move an amendment to a motion discovered during formal business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent that senator moving the amendment to the motion.

No. 4—To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion that a bill be considered an urgent bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent debate taking place on the motion.

No. 5—To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion to specify time to be allotted to the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent the motion being debated without limitation of time and each senator speaking for the time allotted by standing orders.

No. 6—To move (contingent on the chair declaring that the time allotted for the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill, has expired)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent further consideration of the bill, or the stage of the bill, without limitation of time or for a specified period.

No. 7—To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving an amendment to the motion.

No. 8—To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order of business on the *Notice Paper*.

No. 9—To move (contingent on a minister at question time on any day asking that further questions be placed on notice)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion that, at question time on any day, questions may be put to ministers until 30 questions, including supplementary questions, have been asked and answered.

No. 10—To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to make a statement to the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent that senator making that statement.

No. 11—To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to table a document in the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving that the document be tabled.

Notice of motion withdrawn: Senator Lambie withdrew general business notice of motion no. 693 standing in her name for today, proposing a reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.

7 **Senator Lambie—Statement by leave**

Senator Lambie, by leave, informed the Senate of her designation as whip for the purposes of standing order 24A, relating to the Selection of Bills Committee.

8 **Selection of Bills—Standing Committee—Report no. 6 of 2020**

The Chair of the Selection of Bills Committee (Senator Dean Smith) tabled the following report:

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 6 OF 2020

1. The committee met in private session on Tuesday, 16 June 2020 at 7.24 pm.
2. The committee recommends that—
 - (a) the Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Financial Transparency) Bill 2020 be ***referred immediately*** to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 23 November 2020;
 - (b) the Banking Amendment (Deposits) Bill 2020 be ***referred immediately*** to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 10 August 2020;
 - (c) the ***provisions*** of the Biosecurity Amendment (Traveller Declarations and Other Measures) Bill 2020 be ***referred immediately*** to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 30 July 2020; and
 - (d) the Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Banning Dirty Donations) Bill 2020 be ***referred immediately*** to the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by the second sitting day of March 2021.
3. The committee recommends that the following bills ***not*** be referred to committees:
 - Broadcasting Services Amendment (Regional Commercial Radio and Other Measures) Bill 2020
 - Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Ensuring Fair Representation of the Northern Territory) Bill 2020
 - Education Legislation Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Bill 2020
 - Excise Levies Legislation Amendment (Sheep and Lamb) Bill 2020
 - Customs Charges and Levies Legislation Amendment (Sheep and Lamb) Bill 2020
 - Fair Work Amendment (One in, All in) Bill 2020 [No. 2]
 - Services Australia Governance Amendment Bill 2020

Treasury Laws Amendment (2020 Measures No. 3) Bill 2020

Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Supporting the Wellbeing of Veterans and Their Families) Bill 2020.

4. The committee deferred consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
 - Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Improved Home Care Payment Administration No. 1) Bill 2020
 - Air Services Amendment Bill 2018
 - Australian Education Legislation Amendment (Prohibiting the Indoctrination of Children) Bill 2020
 - Competition and Consumer Amendment (Australian Consumer Law—Country of Origin Representations) Bill 2020
 - Constitution Alteration (Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Press) 2019
 - Customs Amendment (Safer Cladding) Bill 2019
 - Discrimination Free Schools Bill 2018
 - Governor-General Amendment (Cessation of Allowances in the Public Interest) Bill 2019
 - Great Australian Bight Environment Protection Bill 2019
 - Health Insurance Amendment (Continuing the Office of the National Rural Health Commissioner) Bill 2020
 - National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Strengthening Banning Orders) Bill 2020
 - Regional Forest Agreements Legislation (Repeal) Bill 2017
 - Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Omnibus) Bill 2020
 - Social Services Legislation Amendment (Better Targeting Student Payments) Bill 2019
 - Social Services Legislation Amendment (Payment Integrity) Bill 2019.
5. The committee considered the following bill but was unable to reach agreement:
 - Electoral Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2020.

Dean Smith

Chair

17 June 2020.

Senator Dean Smith moved—That the report be adopted.

On the motion of the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) the following amendment was agreed to:

At the end of the motion, add “and in respect of the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2020, the bill not be referred to a committee.”

Main question, as amended, put and passed.

9 Order of business—Rearrangement

The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) moved—That general business notice of motion no. 709 standing in the name of Senator Gallagher relating to the national economic plan be considered during general business today.

Question put and passed.

10 Postponement

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in the name of Senator Hanson-Young for today, proposing the disallowance of the Industry Research and Development (Water for Fodder Program) Instrument 2019 [F2019L01591], was postponed till 6 August 2020.

11 Statutory review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—Draft report—Order for production of documents

Senator Hanson-Young, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 692—That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, by 9 am on 7 July 2020, the draft report of the statutory review of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

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.

12 COVID-19—Telehealth Medicare Benefits Schedule

Senator Di Natale, also on behalf of Senator Griff, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 694—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) the telehealth Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) items introduced during the COVID-19 crisis have provided many Australian patients with safe, continued access to healthcare from their homes when they might otherwise have forgone these consultations,
- (ii) telehealth provides particular benefits for patients with mobility issues, disadvantaged families, rural and remote patients, and Indigenous Australians,
- (iii) the telehealth items, spanning general practice, mental health, specialist, allied health and other consultations have allowed greater protection for healthcare professionals during the pandemic, while allowing them to continue delivering care to patients,
- (iv) greater use of telehealth has been a long-term reform objective in the Australian health system for many years, and has the potential to allow greater, more equitable access to healthcare across Australia long after the COVID-19 pandemic, and
- (v) the current telehealth items introduced during COVID-19 are due to expire on 30 September 2020;

- (b) acknowledges that:
 - (i) telehealth consultations cannot and should not fully replace face-to-face consultations, but offer choice and accessibility to healthcare when required, and
 - (ii) video consultations are preferable to telephone consultations where possible, while acknowledging that Australians have inequitable access to high quality broadband services, and some older Australians in particular face barriers to accessing video consultations; and
- (c) calls on the Government to make the telehealth MBS items permanent, with a full evaluation after 12 months, including of patient access, compliance, and continuity of care.

Question put and passed.

13 **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—Order for production of documents**

Senator Hanson-Young, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 695—That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, by 9 am on Friday, 26 June 2020:

- (a) all documents relating to plans and exploration of plans by the Department of the Environment to reform or amend the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) between 1 October 2017 and 30 April 2018;
- (b) all documents relating to plans and exploration of plans by the Minister for the Environment to reform or amend the EPBC Act between 1 October 2017 and 30 April 2018;
- (c) any and all exposure drafts of bills to amend the EPBC Act prepared between 1 October 2017 and 30 April 2018.

Question put and passed.

14 **International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict**

The Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters), also on behalf of Senators Faruqi and Steele-John, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 696—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) Friday, 19 June 2020 marks the sixth annual International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict,
 - (ii) UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action) plays a vital role in working towards ending sexual violence in conflict by uniting 13 UN entities to amplify advocacy, improve coordination and accountability, and support prevention and response efforts, and their six guiding principles are:
 - (A) rape is not an inevitable consequence of conflict – it must be prevented,

- (B) gender-based violence, including sexual violence, is a violation of fundamental human dignity and rights,
- (C) attempts to end sexual violence must address gender-based inequalities by empowering women and protecting and promoting their rights,
- (D) the constructive involvement of men and boys is vital,
- (E) survivors of sexual violence must guide advocacy, and programming efforts to end sexual violence and secure peace, and
- (F) sexual violence in conflict is one of history's great silences – we all have a duty to act, and
- (iii) sexual violence in conflict continues to affect millions of people, especially women and girls; it persists due to ineffective protections, inadequate rule of law and judicial systems, and under-resourced support services for survivors, and sexual violence during conflict can constitute a war crime, crime against humanity and act of genocide, and it must be prevented;
- (b) acknowledges that:
 - (i) the focus of this year's commemoration event is the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on victims and survivors of conflict-related sexual violence,
 - (ii) COVID-19 is having a detrimental impact on all aspects of the lives of victims and survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, and
 - (iii) quarantine, isolation and movement restrictions, and limitations on services, exacerbate the social and structural barriers to reporting and monitoring sexual violence in conflict; these crisis-related limitations also reduce the availability of support services for survivors, including health services, justice services, counselling services, and emergency housing services; and
- (c) calls on the Government to increase support for UN Action efforts to eliminate the occurrence of sexual violence in conflict.

Question put and passed.

15 **Care industry**

Senator Siewert, also on behalf of the Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 697—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that recent research published by the Open University on investment in the care industry found that:
 - (i) if Australia invested 1% of GDP in the care industry, it would raise the employment rate by 1.2% which, as a point of comparison, is more than the same investment in the construction industry,
 - (ii) investment in the care industry would result in 79% of new jobs being filled by women, thereby helping to reduce the gender employment gap in Australia, and

- (iii) the fiscal returns from investing in the care industry are higher compared to investing in other industries, allowing greater investment for the same net cost;
- (b) acknowledges that the care industry, including the education, health, aged care and child care sectors, play a critical role in Australia's recovery from the COVID-19 crisis; and
- (c) calls on the Government to invest in the care industry to generate new jobs, close the gender employment gap and ensure we have the workforce to deliver universal access to essential services.

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 **South Australian tourism**

Senator Patrick, at the request of Senators Griff, Gallacher, Farrell, Marielle Smith and Wong and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 698—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Victorian Premier, Mr Daniel Andrews, yesterday, said of South Australia, 'Why would anyone want to go there?';
- (b) presumes he actually meant 'why wouldn't everyone want to go there?';
- (c) recognises that approximately 40% of South Australia's interstate tourism market comes from Victoria;
- (d) acknowledges the many reasons why thousands of Victorians travel to South Australia each year, including (but not limited to): Kangaroo Island; the Fleurieu Peninsula; the Flinders Ranges; the Adelaide Hills; the Barossa Valley; McLaren Vale; Coonawarra; Port Lincoln; Port Pirie; Renmark and all the regions; world class food and wine; real iced coffee; houseboats on the Murray; the Christmas Pageant; the Adelaide Festival; the Adelaide Fringe; fritz; FruChocs; the Tour Down Under; the city parklands; Vili's pies; Haigh's; the Adelaide Strikers; Port Power; the Crows; and no congestion;
- (e) calls on Premier Andrews to take a moment, enjoy some FruChocs and a Farmers Union (real) Iced Coffee and concede that South Australia is a wonderful, vibrant and welcoming tourist destination; and
- (f) encourages all Australians to back the South Australian Tourism 'Welcome Back Campaign' which looks forward to welcoming all Aussies to '#IchooseSA' as borders re-open.

Question put and passed.

17 **COVID-19—Australia's housing system**

Senator Faruqi, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 699—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the COVID-19 crisis has further exposed existing inequalities in our broken housing system,

- (ii) renters across Australia face eviction as COVID-19 related eviction bans come to an end across states and territories, and
- (iii) as the economic crisis continues, more people are at risk of homelessness than ever before;
- (b) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) increase funding for emergency housing,
 - (ii) invest in building more public and community housing, which will create construction jobs and apprenticeships, and provide homes for people,
 - (iii) direct lenders to implement mortgage relief, where needed, with no interest accrual, a ban on foreclosures and a freeze on owners' credit ratings,
 - (iv) permanently increase income support, and
 - (v) implement a national plan to end homelessness; and
- (c) calls on the National Cabinet to:
 - (i) implement waivers for rent arrears, with relief for those with rental debts, and
 - (ii) agree on a national standard of renters' rights and rental laws to protect people from unfair evictions.

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, 8

Senators—

Di Natale
Faruqi

Hanson-Young
McKim

Rice
Siewert*

Waters
Whish-Wilson

NOES, 39

Senators—

Antic
Askew
Ayres
Bilyk
Brockman
Canavan
Chandler
Cicccone
Colbeck
Cormann

Davey
Duniam
Fierravanti-Wells
Gallagher
Green
Henderson
Hughes
Hume
Lambie
McCarthy

McDonald
McGrath
McKenzie
McLachlan
Molan
O'Sullivan
Paterson
Patrick
Rennick
Ruston

Ryan
Scarr
Seselja
Sheldon
Smith, Dean
Stoker
Urquhart*
Van
Watt

* Tellers

Question negatived.

18 COVID-19—Union fees

Senator Rennick, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 700—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the important and brave contribution of all Australian workers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and
 - (ii) the high cost of union fees for workers who belong to a union; and
- (b) calls on all senators to lobby and encourage unions representing Australian workers to reduce union fees in the medium term to acknowledge the contribution and financial hardship of these workers.

Statement by leave: Senator Gallagher, by leave, made a statement relating to the motion. Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 30

Senators—

Antic	Davey	McKenzie	Reynolds
Askew	Duniam	McLachlan	Ruston
Birmingham	Fierravanti-Wells	Molan	Ryan
Brockman	Henderson	O'Sullivan	Seselja
Canavan	Hughes	Paterson	Smith, Dean*
Chandler	Hume	Patrick	Stoker
Colbeck	McDonald	Rennick	Van
Cormann	McGrath		

NOES, 28

Senators—

Ayres	Faruqi	McAllister	Siewert
Carr	Gallacher	McCarthy	Sterle
Chisholm	Gallagher	McKim	Urquhart*
Ciccone	Green	O'Neill	Walsh
Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Pratt	Waters
Dodson	Lambie	Rice	Watt
Farrell	Lines	Sheldon	Whish-Wilson

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

19 Truck drivers

Senator Sheldon, also on behalf of Senators Sterle and Gallacher, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 701—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) truck drivers across Australia are under pressure because of the squeeze on rates,
 - (ii) pressure on truck drivers does not exist in isolation; it has real life consequences which can be catastrophic,
 - (iii) truck driving is Australia's deadliest industry, with around one in three workplace deaths involving a transport worker,

- (iv) maintaining safe rates of pay for truck drivers contributes directly to increased road safety for all road users,
 - (v) longstanding state laws in Australia provide owner-drivers with certainty over their rates,
 - (vi) during the pandemic, truck drivers have risked their health and lives to continue delivering goods, crossing closed state borders, finding truck stops shut or unable to provide them with hot meals or showers, and
 - (vii) in response to an opinion article urging fellow owner-drivers not to undercut each other during the COVID-19 pandemic, on 1 June 2020 the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) wrote to owner-driver Mr Frank Black threatening criminal charges carrying jail terms; and
- (b) further notes that the ACCC has been asked to:
- (i) withdraw the letter and accusations levelled at Mr Frank Black therein,
 - (ii) apologise to Mr Frank Black, and
 - (iii) confirm that the ACCC will commence a detailed inquiry into destructive competition in the road transport industry that sees those at the top of the supply chain squeezing transport operators, their employees and owner drivers like Frank Black into deadly circumstances.

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 **Regions at the Ready: Investing in Australia's Future—Expert panel report—Order for production of documents**

Senator Patrick, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 702—That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
- (a) the House of Representatives Select Committee on Regional Development and Decentralisation released the 'Regions at the Ready: Investing in Australia's Future' report on 28 June 2018;
 - (b) recommendation 12 of that report called on the Government to develop a clear regional development policy through a comprehensive Regional Australia White Paper, following a Green Paper public consultation process;
 - (c) the Government established an expert panel to 'undertake a targeted assessment of the key issues raised in the Report, including the development of a White Paper' which was to report to Government by 31 March 2019; and
 - (d) the report of the expert panel has not been made available to the Parliament or to the public.

- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, by no later than 18 June 2020, a copy of the expert panel report on the ‘Regions at the Ready: Investing in Australia’s Future’ report.

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

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 31

Senators—

Ayres	Farrell	McAllister	Siewert
Bilyk	Faruqi	McCarthy	Sterle
Brown	Gallacher	McKim	Urquhart*
Carr	Gallagher	O’Neill	Walsh
Chisholm	Green	Patrick	Waters
Ciccone	Hanson-Young	Pratt	Watt
Di Natale	Lambie	Rice	Whish-Wilson
Dodson	Lines	Sheldon	

NOES, 29

Senators—

Antic	Duniam	McKenzie	Ruston
Askew	Fierravanti-Wells	McLachlan	Ryan
Brockman	Henderson	Molan	Scarr
Canavan	Hughes	O’Sullivan	Seselja
Chandler	Hume	Paterson	Smith, Dean*
Colbeck	McDonald	Rennick	Stoker
Cormann	McGrath	Reynolds	Van
Davey			

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

21 Veterans’ suicide—Proposed Royal Commission

Senator Lambie, also on behalf of Senators Patrick and Kitching, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 703—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) suicide by current and former Australian Defence Force members continues to claim at least a life a week,
 - (ii) on 5 February 2020, the Prime Minister said his National Commissioner for Defence and Veteran Suicide Prevention would be ‘bigger and better than a Royal Commission’, and
 - (iii) on 27 February 2020, the Senate disagreed with the Prime Minister;
- (b) again condemns the Morrison Government’s proposed National Commissioner for Defence and Veteran Suicide Prevention as a poor imitation of a Royal Commission;
- (c) believes that nothing short of a Royal Commission into Veteran Suicide can address this painful and ongoing scourge;

- (d) expresses its view that:
- (i) the Prime Minister's National Commissioner will have neither the power, nor the resources, of a Royal Commission, and can in no way be considered 'bigger and better',
 - (ii) any insistence on this unproven, experimental model over the proven and successful model of a Royal Commission is made knowing that it risks making things worse, not better;
- (e) calls on the Morrison Government to establish a Royal Commission into Veterans' Suicide, with a clear start and end date; and
- (f) invites the Royal Commissioner to recommend that a standing, permanent capability be established to oversee reform, should the Commissioner see fit to do so.

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

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 32

Senators—

Ayres	Farrell	Lines	Sheldon
Bilyk	Faruqi	McAllister	Siewert
Brown	Gallacher	McCarthy	Sterle
Carr	Gallagher	McKim	Urquhart*
Chisholm	Green	O'Neill	Walsh
Ciccone	Hanson	Patrick	Waters
Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Pratt	Watt
Dodson	Lambie	Rice	Whish-Wilson

NOES, 29

Senators—

Antic	Duniam	McKenzie	Ruston
Askew	Fierravanti-Wells	McLachlan	Ryan
Brockman	Henderson	Molan	Scarr
Canavan	Hughes	O'Sullivan	Seselja
Chandler	Hume	Paterson	Smith, Dean*
Colbeck	McDonald	Rennick	Stoker
Cormann	McGrath	Reynolds	Van
Davey			

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

22 State and Federal police

Senator Canavan, also on behalf of Senators Davey, Molan, Scarr, Rennick, Askew, McDonald, Antic, Dean Smith, Duniam, Ruston, Cormann, McKenzie, Reynolds, Lambie, Hume, Seselja, McGrath, Chandler, O'Sullivan, Patrick, Colbeck, Griff, McLachlan, Henderson, Van, Hughes, Paterson and Brockman, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 704—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises the hard work, dedication and sacrifice of the over 80,000 state and federal police officers in Australia;
- (b) notes that, in 2018-19, over 9,000 police officers were injured in the line of duty throughout Australia, more than one officer every hour;
- (c) further notes that the 2018 *Answering the call* national survey, found that over 24% of police officers reported that they are sometimes or often physically assaulted when undertaking work duties; and
- (d) condemns those calling for the defunding of our essential police forces, including the views expressed by New South Wales Greens Legislative Councillor Mr David Shoebridge, who has stated that 'That's what #defundthepolice could look like here in NSW'.

Statement by leave: Senator McKim, by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 52

Senators—

Antic	Dodson	Lines	Reynolds
Askew	Duniam	McCarthy	Ruston
Ayres	Farrell	McDonald	Ryan
Bilyk	Fierravanti-Wells	McGrath	Scarr
Brockman	Gallacher	McKenzie	Seselja
Brown	Gallagher	McLachlan	Sheldon
Canavan	Green	Molan	Smith, Dean*
Carr	Hanson	O'Neill	Sterle
Chandler	Henderson	O'Sullivan	Stoker
Ciccone	Hughes	Paterson	Urquhart
Colbeck	Hume	Patrick	Van
Cormann	Kitching	Pratt	Walsh
Davey	Lambie	Rennick	Watt

NOES, 8

Senators—

Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Rice	Waters
Faruqi	McKim	Siewert*	Whish-Wilson

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

23 COVID-19—Stillbirth

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators Keneally, McCarthy, Bilyk, Polley, Rice and Molan and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 706—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) six babies a day in Australia are stillborn, and the rate of stillbirth in Australia has not changed in two decades,
 - (ii) the Senate Select Committee into Stillbirth Research and Education heard many stories from parents and grandparents of stillborn babies about the silence around stillbirth and the solitary nature of this particular grief, and
 - (iii) the Committee made recommendations to improve bereavement support for parents and that the Government has accepted or accepted in principle all recommendations from the Committee's report;
- (b) acknowledges that social distancing restrictions, which have been necessary during the COVID-19 crisis, will have compounded the grief and sorrow for families mourning their stillborn babies; and
- (c) extends condolences and sympathies to the families of stillborn babies in Australia, especially during the COVID-19 crisis.

Question put and passed.

24 Regional Australia

The Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator McKenzie), also on behalf of Senators Canavan, Davey, McDonald and McMahon, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 707—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) regional Australia is a fundamental pillar of our economy, and will play a critical role as we emerge and rebuild from the economic impacts caused by COVID-19,
 - (ii) our regional, rural and remote areas punch well above their weight; they represent just under a third of the national population, yet contribute two thirds of our national income,
 - (iii) regional Australians have had to endure the COVID-19 pandemic in the wake of a devastating summer of bushfires, and
 - (iv) the courage demonstrated by those in our regions as they continue to persist and resist, time and again, characterises the best of what it means to be Australian; and
- (b) commends the Liberal and Nationals Government on:
 - (i) continuing to recognise and respect the challenges faced by our regional communities, and letting those in bushfire-affected communities know that they have not been forgotten by this Government,
 - (ii) supporting these communities as they recover and rebuild through the \$448.5 million Regional Bushfire Recovery and Development Program, and

- (iii) ensuring that our regions are better prepared than ever before the next bushfire season – attributing over \$37 million towards strengthening communications across rural fire depots and evacuation centres.

Statements by leave: Senators Watt and Rice, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

The question was divided at the request of Senator Rice.

Question—That the motion be agreed to in respect of paragraph (a)—put and passed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to in respect of paragraph (b)—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 29

Senators—

Antic	Duniam	McGrath	Reynolds
Askew	Fierravanti-Wells	McKenzie	Ruston
Brockman	Hanson	McLachlan	Ryan
Canavan	Henderson	Molan	Scarr
Chandler	Hughes	O'Sullivan	Seselja
Colbeck	Hume	Paterson	Smith, Dean*
Cormann	McDonald	Rennick	Van
Davey			

NOES, 28

Senators—

Ayres	Farrell	Lambie	Siewert
Bilyk	Faruqi	Lines	Sterle
Brown	Gallagher	McKim	Urquhart*
Carr	Gallagher	O'Neill	Walsh
Chisholm	Green	Pratt	Waters
Ciccone	Hanson-Young	Rice	Watt
Di Natale	Kitching	Sheldon	Whish-Wilson

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

After 12.45 pm—

25 Routine of business—Variation

The Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann), by leave, moved—That:

- (a) if by 2 pm on Thursday, 18 June 2020, the following bills have not been finally considered:

National Skills Commissioner Bill 2020

Health Insurance Amendment (Continuing the Office of the National Rural Health Commissioner) Bill 2020

Treasury Laws Amendment (2020 Measures No. 3) Bill 2020

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Amendment (APRA Industry Funding) Bill 2020 and six related bills

Education Legislation Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Bill 2020

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Amendment (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Bill 2020

Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Bill 2020

- (b) the routine of business from not later than 3.30 pm shall be consideration of the bills listed above only, and the questions on all remaining stages shall be put without debate;
- (c) paragraph (b) of this order shall operate as a limitation of debate under standing order 142;
- (d) divisions may take place after 4.30 pm for the purposes of the bills only; and
- (e) following the conclusion of consideration of the bills, the Senate shall return to the routine of business.

The Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters) moved the following amendment:

At the end of the list of bills in paragraph (a), add: “Coronavirus Economic Support and Recovery (No-one Left Behind) Bill 2020”.

Closure: Senator Cormann moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question on the amendment be now put—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 30

Senators—

Abetz	Davey	McDonald	Rennick
Antic	Duniam	McKenzie	Ruston
Askew	Fierravanti-Wells	McLachlan	Ryan
Brockman*	Gallagher	Molan	Scarr
Canavan	Henderson	O’Sullivan	Smith, Dean
Chandler	Hughes	Paterson	Urquhart
Colbeck	Hume	Payne	Van
Cormann	McCarthy		

NOES, 8

Senators—

Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Rice	Waters
Faruqi	McKim	Siewert*	Whish-Wilson

* Tellers

Question agreed to.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and negatived.

Closure: Senator Cormann moved—That the question on the motion be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

Main question put and passed.

Senator Cormann moved—That—

- (a) the following government business orders of the day be considered from 12.45 pm today:

No. 4 Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Amendment (APRA Industry Funding) Bill 2020 and six related bills

Education Legislation Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Bill 2020

No. 5 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Amendment (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Bill 2020

No. 6 Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Bill 2020; and

- (b) government business be called on after consideration of the bills listed in paragraph (a) and considered till not later than 2 pm today.

Question put and passed.

26 Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Amendment (APRA Industry Funding) Bill 2020
Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions Supervisory Levy Imposition Amendment Bill 2020
Authorised Non-operating Holding Companies Supervisory Levy Imposition Amendment Bill 2020
General Insurance Supervisory Levy Imposition Amendment Bill 2020
Life Insurance Supervisory Levy Imposition Amendment Bill 2020
Retirement Savings Account Providers Supervisory Levy Imposition Amendment Bill 2020
Superannuation Supervisory Levy Imposition Amendment Bill 2020

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Senator Birmingham)—That these bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a second time.

No amendments to the bills were circulated and no senator required that they be considered in committee.

On the motion of the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) the bills were read a third time.

27 Education Legislation Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Bill 2020

A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 226, dated 17 June 2020—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to higher education and vocational education and training, and for related purposes.

The Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) moved—That this bill may proceed without formalities and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

On the motion Senator Duniam the bill was debated and read a second time.

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

On the motion of Senator Duniam the bill was read a third time.

28 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Amendment (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Bill 2020

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians (Senator Colbeck)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

On the motion of the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) the bill was read a third time.

29 Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2020 Measures No. 1) Bill 2020

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians (Senator Colbeck)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

On the motion of the Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries (Senator Duniam) the bill was read a third time.

30 Questions

Questions without notice were answered.

31 Department of the Senate—Mr John Brown, OAM—Retirement—Statement by President

The President made a statement relating to the impending retirement of Mr John Brown, OAM, Supervisor, Chamber Support.

Statements by leave: The Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann), the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wong), Senator Siewert, the Leader of the Nationals in the Senate (Senator McKenzie), the Leader of Pauline Hanson's One Nation (Senator Hanson) and Senator Fierravanti-Wells, by leave, made statements relating to the matter.

32 Motions to take note of answers

Senator Watt moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) to a question without notice asked by Senator Gallagher today relating to the economy.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

At 3.30 pm—

33 National Skills Commissioner Bill 2020

Limitation of debate: The time allotted for the consideration of the bill expired.

Question—That this bill be now read a second time—put and passed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Explanatory memorandum: The Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) tabled a supplementary explanatory memorandum relating to the government amendments to be moved to the bill.

The following amendments circulated by the Government were agreed to:

Clause 5, page 4 (line 11), after “investment in VET”, insert “, VET in regional, rural and remote Australia”.

Clause 7, page 5 (line 4), omit “and”.

Clause 7, page 5 (after line 4), at the end of paragraph (1)(a), add:

- (vi) opportunities to improve access, skills development and choice for regional, rural and remote Australia in relation to VET; and

The following amendment circulated by the Australian Greens was considered:

Clause 9, page 6 (after line 16), after subclause (3), insert:

Requirement for vocational education and training representative

- (3A) There must be at least one member of each advisory committee who is employed by or is a representative of a body established to provide vocational education or training under one of the following:

- (a) the *Technical and Further Education Commission Act 1990* (NSW);
- (b) the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* (Vic.);
- (c) the *TAFE Queensland Act 2013* (Qld);
- (d) the *Vocational Education and Training Act 1996* (WA);
- (e) the *TAFE SA Act 2012* (SA);
- (f) the *Training and Workforce Development Act 2013* (Tas.);
- (g) the *Canberra Institute of Technology Act 1987* (ACT);
- (h) the *Charles Darwin University Act 2003* (NT).

Note: To avoid doubt, a member appointed by the Minister under paragraph (h) must be employed by, or a representative of, the University in relation to its function of providing trade, technical or other vocational education.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 27

Senators—

Bilyk	Faruqi	McAllister	Sheldon
Carr	Gallacher	McCarthy	Siewert
Chisholm	Gallagher	McKim	Sterle
Ciccone	Green	O'Neill	Urquhart*
Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Patrick	Walsh
Dodson	Kitching	Pratt	Whish-Wilson
Farrell	Lines	Rice	

NOES, 27

Senators—

Antic	Colbeck	McDonald	Reynolds
Askew	Cormann	McGrath	Ruston
Birmingham	Davey*	McKenzie	Ryan
Bragg	Duniam	Molan	Seselja
Brockman	Hanson	O'Sullivan	Smith, Dean
Canavan	Henderson	Paterson	Stoker
Cash	Hume	Rennick	

* Tellers

The ayes and noes were equal and so the question was negatived.

Senator Faruqi, by leave, withdrew the remaining amendments circulated by the Australian Greens.

The following amendment circulated by the Opposition was considered:

Clause 9, page 6 (after line 16), after subclause (3), insert:

Requirement for representatives nominated by employer and employee representative groups

(3A) On each advisory committee there must be at least:

- (a) one member who has been nominated for appointment by the Australian Council of Trade Unions; and
- (b) one member who has been nominated for appointment by an employer organisation (within the meaning of the *Fair Work Act 2009*).

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 27

Senators—

Bilyk	Faruqi	McAllister	Sheldon
Carr	Gallacher	McCarthy	Siewert
Chisholm	Gallagher	McKim	Sterle
Ciccone	Green	O'Neill	Urquhart*
Di Natale	Hanson-Young	Patrick	Walsh
Dodson	Kitching	Pratt	Whish-Wilson
Farrell	Lines	Rice	

NOES, 30

Senators—

Antic	Colbeck	McGrath	Reynolds
Askew	Cormann	McKenzie	Ruston
Birmingham	Davey*	McMahon	Ryan
Bragg	Duniam	Molan	Scarr
Brockman	Hanson	O'Sullivan	Seselja
Canavan	Henderson	Paterson	Smith, Dean
Cash	Hume	Rennick	Stoker
Chandler	McDonald		

* Tellers

Question negatived.

Question—That the remaining stages of the bill be agreed to and the bill be now passed—put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

34 Health Insurance Amendment (Continuing the Office of the National Rural Health Commissioner) Bill 2020

A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 227, dated 17 June 2020—A Bill for an Act to amend the *Health Insurance Act 1973*, and for related purposes.

Limitation of debate: The time allotted for the consideration of the bill expired.

On the motion of the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) the bill was read a first time.

Question—That the remaining stages of the bill be agreed to and the bill be now passed—put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

35 Treasury Laws Amendment (2020 Measures No. 3) Bill 2020

A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 229, dated 18 June 2020—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation, international monetary agreements and the cash flow boost, and for related purposes.

Limitation of debate: The time allotted for the consideration of the bill expired.

On the motion of the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) the bill was read a first time.

Question—That the remaining stages of the bill be agreed to and the bill be now passed—put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

36 Committee membership

The President informed the Senate that he had received a letter requesting changes in the membership of a committee.

The Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann), by leave, moved—That Senator McMahon be discharged from and Senator Canavan be appointed to the Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia.

Question put and passed.

37 Committee reports and government responses—Tabling and consideration

The Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Senator Birmingham) tabled the following document:

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Report—Aspects of road safety in Australia—Government response, dated June 2020.

Senator Sterle moved—That the Senate take note of the document.

Debate ensued.

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

Senator McGrath, at the request of the chairs of the respective committees, tabled the following documents:

Budget estimates 2019-20 (Supplementary)— Environment and Communications Legislation Committee —

Hansard record of proceedings and documents presented to the committee.

Additional information received between 25 October 2019 and 15 January 2020—

Communications and the Arts portfolio.

Environment and Energy portfolio.

Additional estimates 2019-20—

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—

Hansard record of proceedings and documents presented to the committee.

Additional information received between 13 March and 17 June 2020—

Agriculture, Water and Environment portfolio, excluding Agriculture and Water.

Industry, Science, Energy and Resources portfolio, excluding Industry, Science and Resources

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio, excluding Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Hansard record of proceedings, documents presented to the committee and additional information.

The Chair of the Economics Legislation Committee (Senator Brockman) tabled the following report:

Economics Legislation Committee—Order for production of documents—Australian Taxation Office—Report.

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

Debate ensued.

Document: Senator Patrick, by leave, tabled the following document:

Additional information related to the inquiry, dated 18 June 2020.

Question put and passed.

Senator Ciccone, on behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on Migration, tabled the following report:

Migration—Joint Standing Committee—Inquiry into migration in Regional Australia—Report, dated June 2020.

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

Question put and passed.

38 Documents—Orders of the day—Consideration

The following orders of the day relating to documents were considered:

Aged Care Act 1997—Report for 2018-19 on the operation of the Act. Motion of Senator Polley to take note of document agreed to.

Education and Employment References Committee—Report—The people behind 000: mental health of our first responders—Order of 4 December 2019—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business (Senator Cash) responding to the order, and attachment. Motion of Senator McCarthy to take note of documents called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

President's report to the Senate on the status of government responses to parliamentary committee reports as at 31 December 2019. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

Female Facilities and Water Safety program—Order of 11 February 2020 (430)—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Youth and Sport (Senator Colbeck), responding to the order and raising public interest immunity claims, and attachments. Motion of Senator Di Natale to take note of documents called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

PFAS testing—Blood and genetic testing on humans and livestock—Order of 12 February 2020—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Defence (Senator Reynolds) responding to the order. Motion of Senator Roberts to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Emergency Leave) Bill 2020—Answer to question—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians (Senator Colbeck) providing information concerning a question asked by Senator Siewert on 14 May 2020 during debate on the bill. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

Cabinet briefings by the Chief Medical Officer—Answer to question—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann), providing information concerning a question without notice asked by Senator Wong on 14 May 2020. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

National Bushfire Recovery Agency Fund—Answer to question—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann), providing information concerning a question without notice asked by Senator Watt on 13 May 2020. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

Victoria Cross for Australia—Ordinary Seaman Edward 'Teddy' Sheean—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Defence (Senator Reynolds), correcting a statement made to the Senate on 13 May 2020. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of document debated. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

Death of Work for the Dole participant—Order of 22 March 2017—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business (Senator Cash), responding to the order, and attachment. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of documents called on. Debate adjourned till Thursday.

39 **Committee reports and government responses—Orders of the day—Consideration**

The following orders of the day relating to committee reports and government responses were considered:

Economics Legislation Committee—Performance of the Inspector-General of Taxation—Report. Motion of Senator McGrath to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Education and Employment References Committee—Report—Jobactive: failing those it is intended to serve—Government response. Motion of Senator Ciccone to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Community Affairs References Committee—Adequacy of Newstart and related payments and alternative mechanisms to determine the level of income support payments in Australia—Report. Motion of Senator Siewert to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

National Disability Insurance Scheme—Joint Standing Committee—Supported independent living—Report. Motion of Senator Ciccone to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Education and Employment References Committee—Report—The people behind 000: mental health of our first responders—Government response. Motion of Senator Watt to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Jobs for the Future in Regional Areas—Select Committee—Report. Motion of Senator McDonald to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

National Disability Insurance Scheme—Joint Standing Committee—NDIS planning—Interim report. Motion of Senator Brown to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

40 **Auditor-General's reports—Orders of the day—Consideration**

The following orders of the day relating to reports of the Auditor-General were considered:

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 23 of 2019-20—Performance audit—Award of funding under the Community Sport Infrastructure Program—Australian Sports Commission. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 25 of 2019-20—Performance audit—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation targets in major procurements—Across entities. Motion of Senator Siewert to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 30 of 2019-20—Performance audit—Bilateral agreement arrangements between Services Australia and other entities: Across entities. Motion of Senator Siewert to take note of document agreed to.

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 35 of 2019-20—Performance audit—Grant program management by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency: Australian Renewable Energy Agency. Motion of Senator McCarthy to take note of document agreed to.

41 Retention bonus for aged care workers—Answer to question—Document

The Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology (Senator Hume) tabled the following document:

Employment—Retention bonus for aged care workers—Answer to question—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians (Senator Colbeck), dated 17 June 2020, providing information concerning a question without notice asked by Senator Walsh on 15 June 2020.

42 Community development grants—Order for production of documents—Documents

The Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology (Senator Hume) tabled the following documents:

Community development grants—Order of 15 June 2020 (652)—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business (Senator Cash), dated 17 June 2020, responding to the order, and attachment.

43 Abbotsford (Yarra) Service Centre—Order for production of documents—Documents

The Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology (Senator Hume) tabled the following documents:

Abbotsford Service Centre—Order of 15 June 2020 (660)—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), dated 18 June 2020, responding to the order, and attachment.

44 Supporting international students—Order for production of documents—Document

The Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology (Senator Hume) tabled the following document:

Supporting international students—Order of 16 June 2020 (674)—Letters to the President of the Senate, dated 17 June 2020, responding to the order from—

Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann).

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Senator Birmingham).

45 COVID-19—Government modelling—Order for production of documents—Documents

The Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology (Senator Hume) tabled the following documents:

COVID-19—Government modelling—Order of 17 June 2020 (680)—Letter from the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) to the Chair of the Select Committee on COVID-19 (Senator Gallagher), dated 18 June 2020, responding to the order and raising a public interest immunity claim.

Senator Gallagher moved—That the Senate take note of the document.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

46 Regions at the Ready: Investing in Australia’s Future—Expert Panel Report—Order for production of documents—Document

The Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology (Senator Hume) tabled the following document:

Expert Panel Report on the ‘Regions at the Ready: Investing in Australia’s Future’ report—Order of 18 June 2020 agreed to earlier today (*see entry no. 20*)—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business (Senator Cash), dated 18 June 2020, responding to the order, and attachment.

47 COVID-19—Asylum seekers—Document

Senator McKim, by leave, tabled the following document:

COVID-19—Asylum seekers—Petitioning document from 9,288 signatories calling for the release of asylum seekers and refugees in detention.

General business was called on.

48 National economic plan

Senator Gallacher, at the request of Senator Gallagher and pursuant to notice, moved general business notice of motion no. 709—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) more than 5 million Australians and their families are relying on government assistance to help them through the COVID-19 pandemic,
 - (ii) JobKeeper and the increase to JobSeeker are set to expire at the end of September, and
 - (iii) more than \$250 billion in deferred loans for mortgages and business are also due to expire at the end of September; and
- (b) calls on the Government to outline a national economic plan that:
 - (i) prevents millions of Australians being ‘snapped-back’ to unemployment, poverty and insecure jobs at the end of September,
 - (ii) has job creation and skills development at the centre, and
 - (iii) ensures that ongoing government investment is targeted to lift Australia out of its first recession in 29 years.

At 5.30 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Siewert was speaking.

49 Committee membership

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Brockman) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter requesting changes in the membership of a committee.

The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, moved—That senators be discharged from and appointed to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee as follows:

Discharged—

Senator Gallacher

Participating member: Senator Green

Appointed—

Senator Green

Participating member: Senator Gallacher.

Question put and passed.

50 Next meeting of Senate and leave of absence

The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) moved—That—

- (a) the Senate, at its rising, adjourn till Tuesday, 4 August 2020, at midday, or such other time as may be fixed by the President or, in the event of the President being unavailable, by the Deputy President, and that the time of meeting so determined shall be notified to each senator; and
- (b) leave of absence be granted to every member of the Senate from the end of the sitting today to the day on which the Senate next meets.

Question put and passed.

51 Adjournment

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Brockman) proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 6 pm till Tuesday, 4 August 2020 at midday.

52 Attendance

Present, all senators except Senators Griff*, Polley*, Marielle Smith* and Steele-John* (*on leave).

RICHARD PYE
Clerk of the Senate