



# Senate Journals

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## 1 **Meeting of Senate**

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

## 2 **Documents**

The following documents were tabled pursuant to standing order 61(1)(b):

### **Document presented by the President**

- 1 Registrar of Senators' Interests—Instrument of appointment, dated 11 May 2020.

### **Government document**

- 2 Director of Military Prosecutions—Report for 2019.

## 3 **Committees—Leave to meet during sittings**

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

Administration of Sports Grants—Select Committee—today, from 1.30 pm.

Environment and Communications References Committee—Thursday, 14 May 2020, from 1 pm.

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee—Thursday, 14 May 2020, from 10.30 am.

## 4 **Consideration of legislation**

The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), pursuant to notice, moved government business notice of motion no. 1—That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111 not apply to the following bills, allowing them to be considered during this period of sittings:

Aged Care Legislation (Emergency Leave) Bill 2020

Export Control Legislation Amendment (Certification of Narcotic Exports) Bill 2020

National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Amendment (Governance and Other Matters) Bill 2020

Privacy Amendment Public Health Contact Information Bill 2020

Superannuation Amendment (PSSAP Membership) Bill 2020.

Question put and passed.

## 5 **Privacy Amendment (Public Health Contact Information) Bill 2020**

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

Message no. 194, dated 12 May 2020—A Bill for an Act to amend the *Privacy Act 1988*, and for related purposes.

The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) 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 of Senator Ruston the bill was debated and read a second time.

The Senate resolved itself into committee for the consideration of the bill.

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*In the committee*

Bill, taken as a whole by leave, debated.

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*At 12.45 pm:* The committee reported progress.

**6 Senators' statements**

Senators made statements.

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*At 2 pm—*

**7 Questions**

Questions without notice were answered.

**8 Motions to take note of answers**

Senator Bilyk moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) to questions without notice asked by Senators Walsh and Sheldon today relating to the Government's response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Senator Whish-Wilson moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by Senator Cormann to a question without notice asked by Senator Whish-Wilson today relating to the Government's response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Question put and passed.

**9 Death of former member Ian Raymond Causley**

The President informed the Senate of the death, on 27 April 2020, of the Honourable Ian Raymond Causley, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Page from 1996 to 2007.

**10 Petitions**

The following 2 petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the senators indicated, were received:

Senator Hanson, from 1 petitioner, requesting that the Senate, with full bipartisan support, fund the 'Rebuild Australia' strategy.

Senator Patrick, from 1,634 petitioners, requesting that the Senate agree that the cost of security screening in regional airports should be paid by the Federal Government, not by regional communities.

*Statement by leave:* Senator Patrick, by leave, made a statement relating to the petition he lodged.

## 11 Notices

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

(a) notes that:

- (i) our superannuation system is a significant national achievement of which all Australians can be proud, and is the difference between poverty and a decent retirement for most people,
- (ii) the consequences of someone taking \$20,000 out of their superannuation now can be very significant at retirement, especially for young people, and for women, who already retire with around half the superannuation of men, and
- (iii) during this period, adequate government support should be provided so that accessing superannuation is a last resort, not a first port of call for people in hardship;

(b) reaffirms its commitment to Australia's world-class superannuation system;

(c) recognises that:

- (i) serious flaws in the Government's early release superannuation program have resulted in fraud, and
- (ii) despite warnings, including from Labor and the superannuation industry, the Government failed to take sufficient action to address these flaws, designing a system about speed not accuracy, costing individuals thousands of dollars; and

(d) calls on the Assistant Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and Financial Technology (Senator Hume) to provide a full explanation of the measures the Government is taking to protect the integrity of our superannuation system and to ensure no further fraud takes place. (*general business notice of motion no. 565*)

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

(a) acknowledges the following Western Australians who received RSLWA Branch Life Membership, and 50 Year Certificates on 25 April 2020, for their devoted service to RSLWA:

- (i) life membership: Mr Ian Brook, City of Rockingham Sub-Branch; Mr Stephen Chamarette, Highgate Sub-Branch; Mr Fred Doust, Boyup Brook Sub-Branch; Mr Daryl Ikin, Joondalup City Sub-Branch; Mr Constantine Kikeros, Three Springs Arrino Sub-Branch; Mr Oliver Lovelle, Mount Lawley-Inglewood Sub-Branch; Lieutenant Colonel John Pronk, Dawesville Sub-Branch; Mrs Donna Prytulak, OAM, Northam Sub-Branch; Mr Doug Rasmussen, Joondalup City Sub-Branch; Mr Ian Raymond, Riverton Sub-Branch; Colonel Geoff Simpson, OAM, Highgate Sub-Branch; Mr Mark Weldon, City of Rockingham Sub-Branch; and Mr David Spillman, Kwinana Sub-Branch,
- (ii) 50 year service: Mr Rodney Hill, Capel Sub-Branch; Mr Owen McClements, Claremont Sub-Branch; Mr Terrence Healy, North Beach Sub-Branch; Mr Robert Gilmour, City of Rockingham Sub-Branch; and Mr Geoffrey Pope, North Beach Sub-Branch;

- (b) acknowledges the recipient of the ANZAC of the Year Award, Retired Army Lance Corporal Mr David Scott of Highgate Sub-Branch, for his exceptional contribution to RSL Australia, veterans in Western Australia and the broader community; and
- (c) notes that all these members of the Western Australian community have made a significant contribution to RSL Australia, RSLWA and RSL Sub-Bran­ches. (*general business notice of motion no. 566*)

Senators Dean Smith and Askew: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges that this year marks the 80th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and the United States of America;
- (b) notes that:
  - (i) Australia and the United States established diplomatic relations on 8 January 1940,
  - (ii) Australia’s first Ambassador to the United States, Mr Norman J O Makin, presented his credentials to the US Government on 11 September 1946, and
  - (iii) the first US Ambassador to Australia, Mr Robert Butler, presented his credentials to the Australian Government on 25 September 1946;
- (c) recognises the strong and enduring trade and investment relationship between our two nations, noting the following:
  - (i) the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA), which entered into force on 1 January 2005,
  - (ii) the United States is Australia’s largest two-way investment partner, reaching \$1.6 trillion in 2017, with two-way trade worth A\$70.2 billion in 2017-18, and
  - (iii) over 10,000 Australian listed companies sell to or operate in the United States; and
- (d) recognises the strong and enduring security relationship between our two nations, noting the following:
  - (i) Australian and US forces have fought alongside each other in every significant conflict since World War I,
  - (ii) the US-Australian alliance is a key partnership for peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region,
  - (iii) US Marines are stationed in Darwin in Australia’s north, and our defence force personnel are working together in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria,
  - (iv) Australian and US defence agencies signed a Joint Statement on Defence Cooperation in October 2015, and
  - (v) in 2017, the United States and Australia participated in the seventh Talisman Saber, a biennial joint military exercise designed to ensure our defence forces can work together with the highest levels of interoperability. (*general business notice of motion no. 567*)

Senators Dean Smith and Askew: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that 25 June 1950 will mark the 70th anniversary of the start of the Korean War;
- (b) acknowledges:
  - (i) the 70th anniversary of the Korean War is a significant milestone for the 225 surviving Korean War veterans in Western Australia, the 34 brave Western Australians who perished in the Korean War, and the 1,500 Western Australians who are since deceased, and
  - (ii) the work of the Korean War Veterans Association for improving Western Australians' knowledge and understanding of the 'Forgotten War' under the stewardship of President Jinkil Lee;
- (c) notes that:
  - (i) 24 April 2021 will mark the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong, and
  - (ii) the Battle of Kapyong is known as one of the most significant and important battles for the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR); and
- (d) acknowledges that the Battle of Kapyong was a decisive conflict in the Korean War, and that it is important to recognise the sacrifice of Australian soldiers, with 32 killed, 59 wounded and three imprisoned. (*general business notice of motion no. 568*)

The Chair of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation (Senator Fierravanti-Wells): To move 15 sitting days after today—That the Export Control (Sheepmeat and Goatmeat Export to the European Union Tariff Rate Quotas) Order 2019, made under the *Export Control Act 1982*, be disallowed [F2019L01564].

Senators Sheldon, Keneally, McAllister, O'Neill and Ayres: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the management of transport security is critical to our national security and to regional communities in regional New South Wales,
  - (ii) on 8 May 2018, the Morrison Government announced measures to 'further strengthen Australia's domestic and international aviation security', which included the introduction of body scanners and improved luggage screening technology at airports,
  - (iii) regional airlines servicing New South Wales have expressed concern that the cost of these upgrades will make regional airline services economically unviable,
  - (iv) the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee began public hearings into this matter on 7 May 2020,
  - (v) the Committee heard evidence that:
    - (A) Armidale Regional Airport explained that the ongoing costs of airport security are 'definitely a concern' for the airport, and these costs would be passed onto passengers,

- (B) Regional Express Airlines said that the airline's profit margin is approximately \$10 per passenger, and if the airline was required to pay security costs, they would no longer make a profit,
  - (C) Corporate Air said that the costs of security screening vary from as little as 87 cents per passenger in Sydney airport, and up to \$19.80 at one of their regional locations, and
  - (D) Corporate Air also said that evenly distributing security costs across the country, as occurs in New Zealand and the USA, could be a fairer model for regional communities,
- (vi) at the hearing, Department of Home Affairs officials told Senator Rennick that the Department had not modelled Corporate Air's suggestion of evenly distributing security costs across the country because 'airport operations are for airports to manage',
- (vii) Senator Rennick stated that 'We're not talking about airports, we're talking about national security, right. And, you know, something that we've got to get sorted out here, because we just had it with the *Ruby Princess*. Okay, and I'm a member of the federal government, and it's our job to look after national security. So this sort of pushing it out on the private enterprise or rather sort of smaller, it just leads to confusion and ambiguous responsibilities as to who's responsible for what. So I think that we ought to take a good look at whether or not it's better for us to do a holistic national approach, rather than the piecemeal airport by airport, which is going to hurt a lot of airports in the region. And I think before, you know, any more changes in regulations or decisions are made, that we look at a national approach. Because if it's good enough for the US and New Zealand, I think it's something that we should also take a serious look at, I'll just leave it at that. Thanks',
- (viii) Senator Rennick is correct in saying that:
  - (A) the Morrison Government is responsible for national security at our airports and seaports,
  - (B) the Morrison Government's current approach to national security has led to 'confusion and ambiguous responsibilities as to who's responsible for what', and
  - (C) the Morrison Government's approach to regional aviation security will potentially 'hurt a lot of airports in the region';
- (b) commends the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for its ongoing work in this area, and its long-standing history of representing rural and regional Australians on important policy issues; and
- (c) condemns the Morrison Government for its implementation of airport security upgrades to date, which are causing confusion and leading to the potential loss of airports, airline services, and jobs in regional New South Wales. (*general business notice of motion no. 569*)



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

- (a) commends and gives thanks to our front line health and emergency service workers for their bravery and commitment in keeping our communities safe;
- (b) acknowledges:
  - (i) the many Australians financially struggling to make ends meet during the COVID-19 crisis and expresses its solidarity with the Australian people during these unprecedented times,
  - (ii) that ‘we’re all in this together’,
  - (iii) that the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic has had immense adverse impacts on the national economy,
  - (iv) that crucial steps must be taken in the near future to curtail unnecessary government spending to pay down national debt, with the Federal Government’s defined benefit scheme liability for bureaucrat pensions estimated to be approximately \$230 billion, or reportedly \$160 billion excluding military entitlements, and
  - (v) that there is absolutely no justification for bureaucrats at the executive level to receive a gold plated pension scheme at the best of times, given their generous pay entitlements and working conditions when employed by the Australian taxpayer; and
- (c) calls on the Federal Government to:
  - (i) means test the Federal Government’s defined benefit scheme (excluding vested amounts) for former senior federal bureaucrats and public servants (including politicians) that would see considerable budgetary savings – with the exception of former military personnel, given their frontline service and duty defending the nation, and
  - (ii) ensure that the rules for the bureaucrat pension scheme are the same as the age pension. (*general business notice of motion no. 570*)

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

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) over 550,000 international students currently study in Australia, contributing immensely to our community and economy,
  - (ii) many of these students are suffering enormous financial hardship at the moment due to unemployment, wage losses and instability during COVID-19,
  - (iii) students have been forced to queue at food banks, live in cramped accommodation, and rely on the charity of others in order to eat and make ends meet,
  - (iv) the government has excluded temporary visa holders, including international students, from federal income support, including Youth Allowance, JobSeeker, JobKeeper and the Coronavirus Supplement, and
  - (v) the government has not provided any other form of financial relief or hardship package for international students, while almost all states and territories have; and

- (b) calls on the Government to allow international students to access federal income support, and provide a financial relief package for these students. (*general business notice of motion no. 571*)

Senators Farrell, Green, Bilyk, Wong, Walsh, Sheldon, Carr, Ayres, Chisholm, Pratt, O'Neill, Polley, Keneally, McAllister, Urquhart, Gallacher, Lines, Brown, Ciccone, Watt, Kitching, McCarthy, Sterle, Marielle Smith, Dodson, Gallagher, Lambie, Faruqi and Siewert: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Fair Work Amendment (Variation of Enterprise Agreements) Regulations 2020, made under the *Fair Work Act 2009*, be disallowed [F2020L00432].

Senator Gallagher: To move on the next day of sitting—That if a motion proposing the disallowance of the Fair Work Amendment (Variation of Enterprise Agreements) Regulations 2020 [F2020L00432] has not been resolved by 2 pm on Thursday, 14 May 2020:

- (a) the motion be called on and considered from 3.30 pm; and
- (b) the question on the unresolved motion shall be put at 4 pm. (*general business notice of motion no. 572*)

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

- (a) acknowledges that many thousands of temporary visa holders in Australia have lost jobs or experienced a substantial loss of income in recent weeks due to the COVID-19 crisis and have no Commonwealth safety-net to assist them;
- (b) notes that:
  - (i) according to Government figures, there are 2.17 million people presently in Australia on a temporary visa,
  - (ii) temporary visa holders contribute significantly to the Australian economy,
  - (iii) while some temporary visa holders have returned home to see out the pandemic, there are others for whom this has been impossible or unfeasible due to financial constraints and flight cancellations, or because they are asylum seekers on bridging visas, and
  - (iv) temporary visa holders are an important part of our economy and society, for example, there are over 8,000 skilled medical professionals on temporary visas supporting our health system right now;
- (c) further notes that temporary skilled visa holders do not have access to the new JobKeeper and JobSeeker payments, even though employers may be anxious to retain them;
- (d) commends state and territory governments for filling in some of the gaps left by the Federal Government regarding temporary visa holders with their own initiatives including additional support for international students and emergency financial grants; and
- (e) calls on the Government to extend JobKeeper and JobSeeker to temporary migrants who are unable to return home in these extraordinary times. (*general business notice of motion no. 573*)

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

- (a) notes:
  - (i) that the COVID-19 pandemic sweeping the world has placed significant strain on health care systems around the world,
  - (ii) that the pandemic has also led to the promotion of a number of medically unproven therapies and in some cases dangerous medical advice,
  - (iii) the specific promotion of the use of anti-rheumatic drug hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19 by both the President of the United States of America and Mr Clive Palmer, where to date there has been little evidence of its effectiveness against the virus and significant evidence of severe side effects and increased risk of death at higher doses,
  - (iv) that the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners has warned against viewing hydroxychloroquine as a treatment for COVID-19, and
  - (v) that a recent study in the New England Journal of Medicine found the drug did not offer any protection against COVID-19, either alone or given in combination with an antibiotic;
- (b) acknowledges that Australians with rheumatoid arthritis, lupus and other painful inflammatory conditions are struggling to fill prescriptions for hydroxychloroquine because the promotion of the drug as a 'cure' for COVID-19 has led to supply shortages;
- (c) recognises that:
  - (i) there has been a surge in hydroxychloroquine imports since January with more than 6,000 tablets of the prescription-only drug seized, and
  - (ii) the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has warned that hydroxychloroquine poses serious risks to patients, including cardiac toxicity (potentially leading to sudden heart attacks), irreversible eye damage and severe depletion of blood sugar (potentially leading to coma); and
- (d) calls on the Federal Government to ensure that the off-label prescription of hydroxychloroquine is strictly monitored by the TGA. (*general business notice of motion no. 574*)

The Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters): To move on the next day of sitting—

- (1) That the Senate meet from Monday, 22 June to Thursday, 25 June 2020.
- (2) That the Senate calls on the Government to provide for sittings of the House of Representatives in the week commencing 22 June 2020. (*general business notice of motion no. 575*)

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

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Government announced a 100 gegalitre 'Water for Fodder' program in November 2019 to provide 40 gegalitres of water in this water year for irrigation purposes, and
  - (ii) water allocations had substantial conveyance loss deducted reducing the actual water delivered; and

- (b) requires that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia on the first sitting day after 1 July 2020, a report into the outcome of the first delivery round of the Water for Fodder program – this should include, for successful applicants only:
  - (i) application identifier,
  - (ii) address or land title reference,
  - (iii) water applied for, water allocated and water delivered for each successful applicant,
  - (iv) any reductions to delivery including conveyance loss, and
  - (v) the irrigation authority responsible for delivery of each allocation. (*general business notice of motion no. 576*)

Senator Kitching: To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matter be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and report by 26 November 2020:

Issues facing diaspora communities in Australia, with particular reference to:

- (a) support offered to diaspora community associations and similar organisations, including government grants and other funding;
- (b) safety concerns among diaspora communities, and means for strengthening the protection and resilience of vulnerable groups;
- (c) barriers to the full participation of diaspora communities in Australia’s democratic and social institutions, and mechanisms for addressing these barriers;
- (d) opportunities to strengthen communication and partnerships between government and diaspora communities in Australia; and
- (e) any related matters.

Senators Rice and Pratt: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) on 17 May 1990 the World Health Organization removed homosexuality from the Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems,
  - (ii) 17 May is now recognised as International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT),
  - (iii) IDAHOBIT is an opportunity to celebrate LGBTIQ+ people, and acknowledges the ongoing discrimination that LGBTIQ+ people still face in Australia and overseas, and
  - (iv) LGBTIQ+ people around the world are facing unique challenges in the context of COVID-19; and
- (b) calls on all parliamentarians to:
  - (i) acknowledge the resilience and strength of LGBTIQ+ people, especially in these unprecedented times,
  - (ii) affirm and celebrate the many and varied contributions of LGBTIQ+ people in Australia, and
  - (iii) condemn all forms of violence and discrimination against LGBTIQ+ people. (*general business notice of motion no. 577*)

Senator Rice: To move on the next day of sitting—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989*, and for related purposes. ***Australian Sports Commission Amendment (Ensuring a Level Playing Field) Bill 2020.*** (*general business notice of motion no. 578*)

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

- (a) notes that Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment recipients did not receive the Coronavirus Supplement;
- (b) acknowledges that people receiving the Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment receive up to \$255.10 a fortnight less than someone on JobSeeker Payment with the Coronavirus Supplement;
- (c) acknowledges that people on the Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment are also facing additional costs due to coronavirus that are not adequately met by the \$750 economic stimulus payments; and
- (d) calls on the Government to provide a top-up payment to Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment recipients so that these payments are equal to the new rate of JobSeeker Payment. (*general business notice of motion no. 579*)

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

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) it has now been more than a year since the Senate Community Affairs References Committee handed down its final report, *Support for Australia's thalidomide survivors* on 21 March 2019,
  - (ii) the Government has still not provided a formal response to this report, despite assuring survivors they would have clarity before the end of the 2019-20 financial year,
  - (iii) the parents of a number of thalidomide survivors have passed away since the report was tabled on 21 March 2019, and
  - (iv) many of Australia's thalidomide survivors are suffering as a result of accelerated ageing associated with their condition; and
- (b) calls on the Government to table its response to the *Support for Australia's thalidomide survivors* report before the end of the 2019-20 financial year, giving clarity and hope to survivors and their families. (*general business notice of motion no. 580*)

The Chair of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills (Senator Polley): To move three sitting days after today—

- (1) That the Senate notes that:
  - (a) the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills plays an essential role in the Senate's legislative function by drawing the attention of the Senate to bills that:
    - (i) trespass unduly on personal rights and liberties,
    - (ii) make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon insufficiently defined administrative powers,
    - (iii) make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions,
    - (iv) inappropriately delegate legislative powers, or

- (v) insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny;
  - (b) this role is undermined when a bill is passed before the committee has had an opportunity to table its initial report on the bill; and
  - (c) except in circumstances where a bill needs to be considered and passed urgently, the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills should have an opportunity to report on a bill before it is passed by the Senate.
- (2) The following operate as a temporary order from the first sitting day in August 2020 to the last sitting day of June 2021:

When a motion for the second reading of a bill is moved by a minister – if the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills has not yet presented its initial report on the bill, debate on the motion be adjourned at the conclusion of the speech of the minister moving the motion and resumption of the debate be made an order of the day for the Wednesday of the first sitting week following the introduction of the bill in either House. (*general business notice of motion no. 581*)

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

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) since 1901, the Federal Government has been responsible for our borders,
  - (ii) on 15 March 2020, the Prime Minister announced a ban preventing international cruise ships from arriving in Australia for 30 days, but said that, ‘In specific cases where we have Australians on cruise ships then there will be some bespoke arrangements that will be put in place directly under the command of the Australian Border Force to ensure the relevant protections are put in place’, paving the way for the *Ruby Princess* to continue sailing to Sydney,
  - (iii) on 19 March 2020, the *Ruby Princess* was cleared to dock in Circular Quay, and passengers were allowed to disembark without being appropriately screened for COVID-19, nor provided with appropriate personal protective equipment to reduce the ability for the virus to transmit through the community as passengers returned home,
  - (iv) to date, the *Ruby Princess* has been responsible for 850 cases of COVID-19 across Australia, and more than 30 deaths,
  - (v) this represents more than 10% of the total number of COVID-19 cases across Australia, and the boat has been linked to an ongoing outbreak in North-West Tasmania, and
  - (vi) the Federal Government has failed to take responsibility for this debacle, and refuses to recognise the four distinct opportunities the Government had to stop the way the *Ruby Princess* docked in Sydney:
    - (A) when creating the regulation that executed the Prime Minister’s cruise ship ban, the Minister for Health failed to use his extraordinary powers under the Biosecurity Act to ‘give any direction, to any person’ and ‘determine any requirement’ to include the ‘requirements and directions’ and ‘enhanced controls’ that were requested by the Department of Home Affairs to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through returning cruise ships,

- (B) despite all vessels entering Australian waters being required to issue a human health report to the Federal Government a minimum of 12 hours prior to arrival, and the Department of Agriculture expressing concerns that ‘people on board [the *Ruby Princess*] had symptoms that may be consistent with a listed human disease,’ the Government did not act after receiving four human health reports from the *Ruby Princess* that showed an alarming increase in the number of passengers falling ill or with high-level fevers,
- (C) the concerns of frontline Australian Border Force (ABF) officers about the COVID-19 risks of the *Ruby Princess* were overruled by senior officers and the boat was cleared to dock, and
- (D) ABF officers did not use regulation 3.15 of the Migration Regulations 1994 that allows officers to seek out a certificate from an incoming vessel that states no passengers are suffering from a disease that may threaten public health;
- (b) thanks all frontline officers for their continued efforts during this global pandemic;
- (c) condemns the Morrison Government for its failure to protect the Australian community by stopping the one boat that mattered; and
- (d) seeks concurrence for this motion in the House of Representatives. (*general business notice of motion no. 582*)

Senators Watt, Chisholm and Green: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the management of transport security is critical to our national security and to regional communities in Queensland,
  - (ii) on 8 May 2018, the Morrison Government announced measures to ‘further strengthen Australia’s domestic and international aviation security’, which included the introduction of body scanners and improved luggage screening technology at airports,
  - (iii) regional airlines servicing Queensland have expressed concern that the cost of these upgrades will make regional airline services economically unviable,
  - (iv) the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee began public hearings into this matter on 7 May 2020,
  - (v) the Committee heard evidence that:
    - (A) Regional Express Airlines said that the airline’s profit margin is approximately \$10 per passenger, and if the airline was required to pay security costs, they would no longer make a profit,
    - (B) Corporate Air said that the costs of security screening vary from as little as 87 cents per passenger in Sydney airport, up to \$19.80 at one of their regional locations, and

- (C) Corporate Air also said that evenly distributing security costs across the country, as occurs in New Zealand and the USA, could be a fairer model for regional communities,
- (vi) at the hearing, Department of Home Affairs officials told Senator Rennick that the Department had not modelled Corporate Air's suggestion of evenly distributing security costs across the country because, 'operations are for airports to manage',
- (vii) Senator Rennick stated that 'We're not talking about airports, we're talking about national security, right. And, you know, something that we've got to get sorted out here, because we just had it with the *Ruby Princess*. Okay, and I'm a member of the federal government, and it's our job to look after national security. So this sort of pushing it out on the private enterprise or rather sort of smaller, it just leads to confusion and ambiguous responsibilities as to who's responsible for what. So I think that we ought to take a good look at whether or not it's better for us to do a holistic national approach, rather than the piecemeal airport by airport, which is going to hurt a lot of airports in the region. And I think before, you know, any more changes in regulations or decisions are made, that we look at a national approach. Because if it's good enough for the US and New Zealand, I think it's something that we should also take a serious look at, I'll just leave it at that. Thanks', and
- (viii) Senator Rennick is correct in saying that:
  - (A) the Morrison Government is responsible for national security at our airports and seaports,
  - (B) the Morrison Government's current approach to national security has led to 'confusion and ambiguous responsibilities as to who's responsible for what', and
  - (C) the Morrison Government's approach to regional aviation security will potentially 'hurt a lot of airports in the region';
- (b) commends the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for its ongoing work in this area, and its long-standing history of representing rural and regional Australians on important policy issues; and
- (c) condemns the Morrison Government for its implementation of airport security upgrades to date, which are causing confusion and leading to the potential loss of airports, airline services, and jobs in regional Queensland. (*general business notice of motion no. 583*)



The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston): To move on the next day of sitting—That—

- (a) if the notice of motion standing in the name of Senator Patrick proposing the disallowance of the Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Security Controlled Airports) Regulations 2019 has not been resolved by 12.45 pm on Thursday, 14 May 2020, the notice of motion shall be called on and considered at 3.30 pm that day; and
- (b) if consideration of the motion is not concluded by 4 pm, the question on the unresolved motion shall then be put.

Senators McKenzie, McMahon, Canavan, McDonald and Davey: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) Australia's hunters and shooters contributed \$2.4 billion to our economy in 2018, while recreational hunting made a net contribution of \$335 million, adding 3,300 jobs,
  - (ii) game hunting expenditure has created 2,383 jobs in the State of Victoria, 1,115 as a direct result of hunting expenditure and 1,268 of which were a result of flow-on effects (2013),
  - (iii) the economic impact of all hunting by game licence holders in Victoria is \$177 million, with a flow-on impact of \$262 million and a total impact of \$439 million,
  - (iv) regional communities have missed out on considerable revenue from hunting as a result of the summer bushfires and COVID-19 pandemic, and
  - (v) hunters and shooters are more likely to meet sufficient physical activity requirements than the average Australian adult; and
- (b) condemns state Labor governments for:
  - (i) failing to recognise and respect the considerable social, economic and environmental benefits of hunting and shooting to communities across regional Australia, and
  - (ii) their bias and discriminatory decision to restrict firearm and ammunition sales using the COVID-19 pandemic as an excuse. (*general business notice of motion no. 584*)

The Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters): To move on the next day of sitting—That—

- (1) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister by no later than 5 pm on 25 May 2020, the following documents relating to the National COVID-19 Coordination Commission and the associated Manufacturing Working Group:
  - (a) all agendas and minutes of meetings, including:
    - (i) evidence noting recusal of members from discussions,
    - (ii) any advice provided by members or special advisors, or sought by the Commission, regarding a conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest of any member or special advisor, and
    - (iii) any person attending the meetings;

- (b) all documents outlining processes relating to the appointment of members by the Government, including a list of any persons invited to be a member who declined the invitation;
  - (c) details of any special advisors or other person appended to the Commission or working group appointed by the Government or the Commission;
  - (d) details of any payments made to members or special advisors by the Government in relation to their involvement in the Commission or working group;
  - (e) all documents outlining shareholdings and financial interests of the members or special advisors, including declarations made by members;
  - (f) all documents outlining the process for managing conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest for members;
  - (g) all documents outlining the process for managing conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest for special advisors or other persons appended to the Commission or working group;
  - (h) a list of all stakeholders that the Commission, working group or special advisors have met with; and
  - (i) all documents relating to projects currently under consideration by the Commission, the working group or any special advisor.
- (2) If the Senate is not sitting when the documents are ready for presentation, the documents are to be presented to the President under standing order 166.
  - (3) In the event the Minister fails to table the reports and correspondence, the Senate requires the Minister representing the Prime Minister to attend the Senate on the following sitting day, by no later than 10.15 am, to provide an explanation, of no more than 10 minutes, of the Government's failure to table the documents.
  - (4) Any senator may move to take note of the explanation required by paragraph (3).
  - (5) Any motion under paragraph (4) may be debated for no longer than 60 minutes, shall have precedence over all government business until determined, and senators may speak to the motion for not more than 10 minutes each. (*general business notice of motion no. 585*)

The Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges that last month people around the world celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut, the creation of the State of Israel, however, this week, Palestinians and their friends commemorate the Nakba, where, in 1948, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were displaced and lost their homes, and many were killed;
- (b) notes with deep concern that Palestinian dispossession continues to this day;
- (c) further notes with deep concern that:
  - (i) US President Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu are actively undermining the prospects of a two-state solution that could deliver peace and security to the Israeli and Palestinian peoples,

- (ii) Prime Minister Netanyahu is intending to unilaterally implement parts of President Trump's so-called Peace Plan, even though it has been rejected by Palestine and has almost no support within the international community, and
- (iii) Netanyahu's plans include the annexation of large swathes of the West Bank and constitute a serious violation of international law;
- (d) expresses disappointment that the Australian Government has not vocally opposed the new Israeli Government's plans; and
- (e) calls on the Federal Government to:
  - (i) make it clear that there will be serious diplomatic consequences for Israel if Netanyahu's new Coalition Government goes ahead with its threat to annex Palestinian territory, just as there have been for other illegal annexations of territory, and
  - (ii) recognise the State of Palestine. (*general business notice of motion no. 586*)

Senator Hanson-Young: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the science is well established on the link between wildlife consumption and the transfer of zoonotic diseases, such as coronavirus, to humans,
  - (ii) closing wildlife markets will not be enough to prevent future pandemics like COVID-19; it must be accompanied by an end to the trade of wildlife for consumption and other purposes,
  - (iii) ending the trade of wildlife would not only help keep the global community safe from future pandemics but also help protect the world's precious wildlife for future generations,
  - (iv) wildlife trade impacts biodiversity, can cause diseases to be transferred between other wildlife species putting them at risk, drives poaching and trafficking and ultimately fuels the extinction crisis around the world, and
  - (v) the G20 meets in November and will focus on the global response to the pandemic; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to advocate for a global ban on the trade of wildlife. (*general business notice of motion no. 587*)

Senators Wong, Marielle Smith and Kitching: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges that local community television services Channel 31 Melbourne and Channel 44 Adelaide provide valuable programs and services to the community including:
  - (i) local news,
  - (ii) grassroots multicultural, sporting and arts activities and events,
  - (iii) training opportunities for young and emerging journalists and screen practitioners, including in partnership with universities,
  - (iv) support for small businesses and not-for-profits, and

- (v) live to air broadcasts of cultural and religious services for older audiences without internet access;
- (b) recognises that, consistent with the objects of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, Channel 31 Melbourne and Channel 44 Adelaide:
  - (i) play an important role in reflecting Australian identity, character and cultural diversity,
  - (ii) provide program material that is locally significant, and
  - (iii) contribute to the diversity of broadcasting services available to the Australian public;
- (c) notes that:
  - (i) consistent with the objects of the *Radiocommunications Act 1992*, Channel 31 Melbourne and Channel 44 Adelaide assist to:
    - (A) maximise the overall public benefit derived from using the radio frequency spectrum, and
    - (B) make adequate provision of the spectrum for use by community services,
  - (ii) there is no immediate or planned alternative use for the radio frequency spectrum occupied by Channel 31 and Channel 44,
  - (iii) since Mr Malcolm Turnbull's 2014 announcement of the Government's decision to move community television off-air, to an online-only model of distribution:
    - (A) the Government has provided financial assistance and licence extensions to support a transition to an online-only distribution model, and
    - (B) licence uncertainty has contributed to the closure of CTV services in Sydney (TVS), Brisbane (Bris31) and Perth (WTV), and
  - (iv) the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the media sector means a successful transition of Channel 31 Melbourne and Channel 44 Adelaide to an online-only distribution model is not feasible at this time; and
- (d) calls on the Government to renew and/or extend the necessary licences for Channel 31 Melbourne and Channel 44 Adelaide to remain on air so they can continue to provide programs and services to the community over the free and ubiquitous broadcast television platform. (*general business notice of motion no. 588*)

Senators Whish-Wilson and Rice: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) in August 2017, the Department of the Environment and Energy commissioned Mr Drew Clarke, AO, PSM, FTSE to undertake a review of the governance arrangements supporting the Australian Antarctic Science Program and to provide advice on a new governance model (the Clarke Review),
  - (ii) in December 2017, the Clarke Review recommended institutionalising long-term collaborative science and ensuring coherent science leadership,

- (iii) in April 2020, the Federal Government announced \$56 million for a new Australian Research Council Special Research Initiative in Excellence in Antarctic Science,
  - (iv) the University of Tasmania will receive \$20 million over three years, a figure significantly lower than expected and which does not support a clear, long-term scientific research agenda for Australia's Antarctic and Southern Ocean science programs,
  - (v) Tasmania is recognised as Australia's Antarctic gateway and is a global hub for Antarctic science, and
  - (vi) long-term monitoring and research is critical to climate science, in particular, to the Antarctic and Southern Ocean, having a significant impact on the global climate system; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to:
- (i) increase overall investment in climate science research capability,
  - (ii) adopt a funding scheme that supports a clear, long-term scientific research agenda,
  - (iii) act on the Clarke Review recommendations, and
  - (iv) immediately provide funding certainty and continuity to Southern Ocean, Antarctic and climate research. (*general business notice of motion no. 589*)

## 12 Postponements

Business was postponed as follows:

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 3 standing in the name of Senator Faruqi for today, proposing the disallowance of items 5 to 7 of Schedule 1 of the Coronavirus Economic Response Package (Payments and Benefits) Amendment Rules (No. 2) 2020, postponed till the next day of sitting.

General business notice of motion no. 561 standing in the name of Senators Gallagher and Patrick for today, relating to supplementary additional estimates hearings, postponed till the next day of sitting.

## 13 Leave of absence

Senator Urquhart, by leave, moved—That leave of absence be granted to Senator O'Neill for today, for personal reasons.

Question put and passed.

## 14 Gambling—Use of credit cards

Senator Griff, also on behalf of Senator Siewert, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 531—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) from 14 April 2020, gamblers in the United Kingdom (UK) can no longer use credit cards to pay for bets – the ban applies to online and offline betting,

- (ii) from 7 May 2020, the UK has also implemented a moratorium on gambling advertising on TV and radio during the pandemic in recognition of the profound effect gambling ads have on the level of problem gambling, and
  - (iii) both measures are important consumer protection, especially given the impact of the COVID-19 crisis;
- (b) acknowledges that:
  - (i) credit cards cannot be used in ATM or EFTPOS machines in offline gambling venues in Australia but are still used for online betting,
  - (ii) access to credit card use for gambling can create a unique harm whereby large amounts of debt can be accumulated in a limited period,
  - (iii) for Australians experiencing gambling harm, a credit card can lead to severe financial stress for the individual and their family,
  - (iv) the prohibition on credit card use for gambling reduces the risks of harm to consumers from gambling with money they do not have,
  - (v) there has been an increase in consumer interest in online gambling since the COVID-19 crisis began and while other forms of gambling, such as pokies and casinos are shut down, and
  - (vi) Australia ranks number one, with the highest gambling losses per capita worldwide – around \$1,400 per person;
- (c) recognises that many Australians are currently dealing with job losses resulting in severe financial stress, which are stressors for gambling harm; and
- (d) calls on the Federal Government to introduce:
  - (i) legislation to ban the use of credit cards to pay for online bets, as a matter of urgency, and
  - (ii) a moratorium on gambling ads during the pandemic crisis to protect the vulnerable and people experiencing gambling harm.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

## 15 **COVID-19—Private health insurance**

Senator Griff, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 532—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges that:
  - (i) many private health insurance customers have not had access to elective surgery or extras during the COVID-19 pandemic,
  - (ii) private health insurance companies have made large profits during this period due to the reduction in claims as policy holders continue to pay their insurance premiums, and
  - (iii) many Australians are experiencing difficulties in attempting to negotiate reductions in premiums or fee cover with their health insurance company until they are able to visit their practitioners again;

- (b) notes research published by the Australia Institute which indicates that:
  - (i) as a consequence of Commonwealth and State use of private hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic, combined with social distancing measures, benefits claimed by people insured by Australia's private health insurers could fall by an estimated 30% to 50%, resulting in a windfall to private health insurers of between \$3.5billion and \$5.5billion over a six-month period, and
  - (ii) if premiums were reduced in line with reduced services, the Federal Government would also save approximately \$1billion to \$1.5billion a year in its Public Health Insurance Rebate Subsidy;
- (c) recognises that whilst many private health funds are delaying premium hikes that were planned for April, insurers should also return 'savings' to customers at this difficult time;
- (d) commends those private health insurers that have passed savings on to policy holders during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (e) calls on the Federal Government to direct the Productivity Commission to undertake an urgent review of the likely reduction in private health insurance fund payments and implement any recommendations.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

## 16 COVID-19—Small amount credit contracts

Senator Griff, also on behalf of Senator McAllister, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 533—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) small amount credit contracts (SACCs), known as payday loans, are high-cost loans of up to \$2,000 for a period of between 16 days and 12 months,
  - (ii) payday lending is a billion dollar industry where profits are made by charging high fees to consumers, often entrenching them in a cycle of debt,
  - (iii) given the current circumstances surrounding COVID-19 and the number of people facing financial hardship due to loss of income, there will likely be an increase in the amount of consumer debt as a result of payday loans,
  - (iv) more than 30 consumer and community organisations have called for a ban on payday lending during the COVID-19 crisis,
  - (v) the Federal Government has known for years about the harm that payday loans can cause, and
  - (vi) despite releasing exposure draft legislation on small amount credit contract and consumer lease reforms in October 2017, the Federal Government has failed to take any further action;

- (b) acknowledges that:
  - (i) many Australians will need access to short-term finance during this crisis, and
  - (ii) short-term loan options from banks may not be a viable option for Australians in desperate need of short-term finance during this crisis;
- (c) condemns exploitative conduct and the exploitation of borrowers by unscrupulous lenders and affirms that:
  - (i) there is no place for predatory lenders within the Australian community, and
  - (ii) vulnerable consumers must be protected;
- (d) further notes that:
  - (i) the South Australian Government believes that there has been an increase in predatory practices following the pandemic, and current laws are insufficient to prevent exploitation,
  - (ii) the South Australian Attorney-General has expressed frustration that the Federal Government could have acted by now but has not, and
  - (iii) this failure by the Federal Government is forcing the South Australian Government to crack down independently; and
- (e) calls on the Federal Government to urgently introduce and pass legislation to provide critical protections and stop the harm caused by payday loans and consumer leases.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

## 17 **COVID-19—Racism**

Senator Griff, also on behalf of Senators Keneally and Walsh, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 534—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises that Australians are living through an extraordinary challenge for our society and our economy;
- (b) notes that:
  - (i) the actions taken by our leaders have been necessary to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic to save lives but they have had a significant impact on all of our lives,
  - (ii) COVID-19 has nothing to do with race or nationality – and neither fear of the virus nor frustration at the difficulties we all face are excuses for abusing people based on race, nationality or ethnicity,
  - (iii) since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, there have been persistent reports of racist abuse and discrimination aimed at people of Chinese and other Asian backgrounds, reflected in a spike in racial discrimination complaints to the Human Rights Commission, and



- (iv) the reported racist incidents harm our collective wellbeing at a time when we need to be working together with social cohesion being more important now than ever;
- (c) condemns these incidents of racism in the strongest possible terms;
- (d) urges all people in Australia to show kindness and support each other in these difficult times; and
- (e) calls on the Federal Government to implement a national strategy to combat racism.

Question put and passed.

## 18 **COVID-19—Multilingual information**

Senator Griff, also on behalf of Senator Keneally, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 535—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises that more than five million Australians speak a language other than English;
- (b) notes, given the complexity of COVID-19, that it is essential for these communities to have access to and a clear understanding of vital health information;
- (c) acknowledges that trusted and accurate news in language is of particular importance, with misinformation and opinion around COVID-19 providing further challenges for Australians whose first language is not English;
- (d) welcomes the launch of the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) Multilingual Coronavirus Portal operating as a dedicated online information hub with news and information in 63 languages to further support multicultural Australia during the pandemic; and
- (e) praises the invaluable work of the SBS across its radio, television and online platforms keeping culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Australia informed with vital COVID-19 related news and information to help protect themselves and their communities in challenging circumstances.

Question put and passed.

## 19 **Jambo Africa Festival**

Senator Dean Smith, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 536—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Organisation of African Communities in Western Australia (OACWA) held their annual Jambo Africa Festival at Stirling Civic Gardens on Saturday, 29 February 2020,
  - (ii) the Jambo Africa Festival is the largest annual African festival in Western Australia, featuring an array of music, dancing, arts, cultural performances and authentic African food,
  - (iii) in 2018, the Jambo Africa Festival was attended by over 8,000 people; in 2019 it was attended by over 10,000; and in 2020 event organisers anticipated a turnout of approximately 15,000, people representing 40 different African communities, and

- (iv) the annual event aims to celebrate diversity and promote cultural awareness and understanding of African culture in Western Australia; and
- (b) acknowledges the following OAC Management Committee members for their contribution to the West Australian African community, and for making the 2020 Jambo Africa Festival a great success:
  - (i) President, Mr Joe Tuazama;
  - (ii) Vice President (Operations), Ms Elizabeth Lang;
  - (iii) Vice President (Administration), Dr Casty Nyaga; and
  - (iv) Secretary General, Mr Cedric Ngadze.

Question put and passed.

## 20 **Captain James Cook**

Senator Dean Smith, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 537—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges that April 2020 marks the 250th anniversary of Captain James Cook, RN, FRS and the HMS *Endeavour*'s first voyage to Australia and the Pacific;
- (b) notes that:
  - (i) Captain Cook's first voyage, departing Plymouth Dockyard in August 1768, was a joint expedition between the Royal Navy and Royal Society to travel to Tahiti to observe the 1769 transit of Venus across the Sun, and to find evidence of the unknown southern continent (Terra Australis Incognita), as theorised by classical Greek geographers and recorded by early continental European explorers,
  - (ii) the expedition reached New Zealand in September 1769, where it charted the coastline for six months, and then discovered the south eastern coastline of Australia on 19 April 1770 (ship's log date) or 20 April 1770 (calendar date),
  - (iii) Captain Cook was the first known European explorer to reach the east coast of Australia, land at Point Hicks and Botany Bay, and map the eastern coastline,
  - (iv) Captain Cook successfully navigated the Great Barrier Reef, one of the most challenging natural maritime hazards in the world, and
  - (v) Indigenous Australians had been living here for over 60,000 years at the time of Cook's arrival;
- (c) acknowledges Captain Cook's contribution to furthering human knowledge in public health:
  - (i) no crew were lost to scurvy due to innovative crew health and welfare practices implemented during the voyage, and
  - (ii) Captain Cook's crew health and welfare practices later proved essential in establishing the link between a deficiency in ascorbic acid (vitamin C) and scurvy; and
- (d) acknowledges Sir Joseph Banks (botanist) for his contribution to furthering human knowledge and understanding of the natural world, meticulously documenting a wide variety of previously undiscovered Australian flora and fauna.

*Statements by leave:* Senators Siewert and Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

## 21 **Chin National Day**

Senator Dean Smith, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 538—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges that:
  - (i) 20 February 2020 marked Chin National Day,
  - (ii) this day of celebration is significant for the approximately 1.5 million Chins who reside in the mountainous regions across Myanmar, India and Bangladesh, and
  - (iii) nearly 8,000 Chin refugees fled their country of origin and found safe haven in Australia;
- (b) notes that Chin National Day celebrations were held in the following cities throughout Australia:
  - (i) Perth, 15 February 2020,
  - (ii) Adelaide, 15 February 2020,
  - (iii) Melbourne, 20 February 2020, and
  - (iv) Brisbane, 29 February 2020; and
- (c) acknowledges the Chin Human Rights Organisation's tireless commitment to advancing human rights, democracy, and freedom in Myanmar.

Question put and passed.

## 22 **Death of Victoria Police officers**

Senator Ciccone, also on behalf of Senators Hume, Van, Henderson, Kitching, Paterson, McKenzie and Ryan, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 539—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges the tragic loss of four Victoria Police officers who were killed in the line of duty on 22 April 2020;
- (b) expresses its condolence to the families, friends and colleagues of:
  - (i) Leading Senior Constable Lynette Taylor,
  - (ii) Senior Constable Kevin King,
  - (iii) Constable Glen Humphris, and
  - (iv) Constable Josh Prestney;
- (c) offers support to all the police and emergency service teams and members of the public that attended the scene; and
- (d) extends its gratitude to all police officers and emergency services personnel who serve and routinely put themselves at risk of harm in order to keep our community safe.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

### **23 Building Landcare Community and Capacity Grants program—Order for production of documents**

Senator Ciccone, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 546—That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management, by no later than 3 pm on Thursday, 14 May 2020, all copies of correspondence, whether written letters or via email, relating to grant funding to successful applicants of the Building Landcare Community and Capacity Grants program.

Question put and passed.

### **24 PFAS Taskforce**

Senator Roberts, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 558—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Australian Government PFAS Taskforce is responsible for whole-of-government coordination and oversight of Australian Government responses to PFAS contamination, and
  - (ii) the Australian Government PFAS Taskforce works closely with the government agencies that have regulatory responsibilities, and the government agencies running site investigations, management activities and community engagements; and
- (b) resolves to call on the Minister for the Environment, the Honourable Sussan Ley, MP to arrange for the tabling in the Senate on the first sitting day following 1 June 2020 of:
  - (i) the minutes of the last 3 meetings of the PFAS Taskforce, and
  - (ii) the dates of each meeting of the PFAS Taskforce, commencing from the first meeting after 2015.

Question put and passed.

### **25 COVID-19—Newmarch House outbreak**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators Keneally, McAllister, Ayres, O'Neill and Sheldon and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 559—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the challenging circumstances confronted by residents, families and staff as a result of a COVID-19 outbreak at Newmarch House;
- (b) conveys our deepest sympathies to those families who have lost loved ones during these difficult times;
- (c) further notes that:
  - (i) as at 12 May 2020, 18 residents have sadly passed away since the outbreak,
  - (ii) around 70 residents and staff have tested positive to the COVID-19 virus,
  - (iii) Newmarch House has experienced a series of infection-control failures, and has a second wave of COVID-19 infections at the facility, and

- (iv) the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission has issued Newmarch House with a number of regulatory actions, including a notice requiring agreement;
- (d) considers that the residents of Newmarch House, their loved ones and staff deserve answers to why there were a series of infection-control failures, and that all Australians must be assured we have the very best infection control practices in aged care; and
- (e) calls on the Morrison Government to work with the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety to establish a special investigation into what went wrong at Newmarch House.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

## 26 **Collins Class submarines**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators Wong, Farrell, Gallacher and Marielle Smith and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 560—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) it was the Hawke Labor Government's decision to build the Collins Class submarines in Osborne in South Australia that gave life to the modern naval shipbuilding and submarine enterprises in Australia,
  - (ii) it was the Rudd Labor Government that first committed to building 12 Future Submarines in South Australia,
  - (iii) it was the Gillard Labor Government that initiated the significant reforms that underpin today's highly successful sustainment arrangements for the Collins Class,
  - (iv) the ASC workforce in South Australia has been instrumental in maintaining Australia's vital submarine capability, and
  - (v) the Coalition government is reviewing the existing full cycle docking arrangements;
- (b) expresses concern that:
  - (i) the acquisition of the Future Submarines has been delayed by a decade, and with it the jobs promised to South Australian workers, while also creating the risk of a capability gap,
  - (ii) despite initial claims that 90% of the build of the Future Submarines would occur in Australia, the Government will now only promise that 60% of the cost of the build will be spent locally, and this will include ancillary services like hotels, travel agents, language training and security guards, and
  - (iii) Prime Minister Morrison and Minister Reynolds have failed to give South Australian workers the certainty they deserve, despite promising a decision would be made before the end of last year; and

- (c) calls on the Government to:
- (i) give an assurance to everyone working on full-cycle docking that their jobs are secure, because we will need every single one of those workers to ensure we have the skills and personnel in South Australia to construct the Future Submarines; and
  - (ii) deliver on the promise made by then Minister Pyne that the ‘people who work on Collins Class full cycle docking sustainment and maintenance of the submarines at Osborne...will always have a job’.

*Leave refused:* Senator Patrick sought leave to move an amendment to the motion. An objection was raised and leave was not granted.

*Proposed suspension of standing orders:* Senator Patrick, pursuant to contingent notice, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent him moving an amendment to the motion.

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

The Senate divided—

AYES, 5

Senators—  
Griff  
Hanson

Lambie

Patrick\*

Roberts

NOES, 34

Senators—  
Abetz  
Askew  
Bragg  
Brockman  
Canavan  
Chandler  
Cormann  
Davey  
Di Natale

Faruqi  
Fawcett  
Fierravanti-Wells  
Gallagher  
Henderson  
Hughes  
McDonald  
McKenzie  
McKim

McMahon  
O’Sullivan  
Paterson  
Rennick  
Rice  
Ruston  
Ryan  
Sheldon

Siewert  
Smith, Dean  
Stoker  
Urquhart\*  
Van  
Walsh  
Waters  
Whish-Wilson

\* Tellers

Question negatived.

*Leave refused:* Senator Patrick and the Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) sought leave to make statements relating to the motion. Objections were raised and leave was not granted.

Question put and passed.

## 27 Violence against women

The Leader of the Australian Greens in the Senate (Senator Waters) amended general business notice of motion no. 563 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) 17 women have been killed by violence since the start of 2020, as reported by Counting Dead Women Australia from Destroy The Joint,
- (ii) there is no national government reporting program to record the ongoing toll of women killed by violence in real time and ensure that these horrifying statistics receive ongoing public attention,
- (iii) on average, one woman is murdered every week by her current or former partner,
- (iv) according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Personal Safety Survey 2016:
  - (A) more than 370,000 Australian women are subjected to violence from men each year,
  - (B) 1 in 3 Australian women has experienced physical violence,
  - (C) 1 in 5 Australian women has experienced sexual violence,
  - (D) 1 in 6 Australian women has experienced physical or sexual violence by a current or former partner,
  - (E) 1 in 4 Australian women has experienced emotional abuse by a current or former partner,
  - (F) Australian women are nearly three times more likely than men to experience violence from an intimate partner, and
  - (G) Australian women are 2.5 times more likely to be hospitalised for assault injuries arising from family and domestic violence than men, with hospitalisation rates rising by 23% since 2014-15,
- (v) in 2017, young women aged 15-34 accounted for more than half of reported sexual assaults,
- (vi) there is growing evidence that women with disabilities are more likely to experience violence,
- (vii) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women report experiencing violence at 3.1 times the rate of non-Indigenous women,
- (viii) in 2016-17, Indigenous women were 32 times as likely to be hospitalised due to family violence as non-Indigenous women,
- (ix) the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-22 states that the overall prevalence of violence against women will only start to decrease in the very long term as gender roles change,
- (x) the Fourth Action Plan recognises that demand for domestic and family violence services has increased, and will continue to increase, and

- (xi) the COVID-19 crisis has put more women and children at risk of abuse and increased both the demand for domestic and family violence services and the complexity of the models for delivering these services; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
  - (i) recognise violence against women as a national security crisis,
  - (ii) adequately fund frontline domestic, family and sexual violence and crisis housing services to ensure that all women seeking safety can access these services when and where they need them,
  - (iii) legislate for 10 days paid domestic and family violence leave so that women do not have to choose between paying the bills and seeking safety,
  - (iv) ensure that all government funded counselling services for domestic and family violence are delivered by expert family violence service providers in accordance with the National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions,
  - (v) implement all 25 recommendations of the 2015 Senate inquiry into domestic violence in Australia, and
  - (vi) maintain and publish an official real-time national toll of women killed by violence in Australia.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

## 28 COVID-19—Living costs for people with disability

Senator Siewert, also on behalf of Senator Steele-John, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 540—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that before coronavirus, National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM) modelling found that disabled people spent around \$107 a week more on basic living costs compared to other Australians;
- (b) recognises that disabled people and carers face increased living costs due to the coronavirus pandemic, including costs related to food delivery, groceries, health care, medical supplies, personal protective equipment, transport, and utility bills;
- (c) acknowledges that people on the Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment feel left behind by the Government; and
- (d) calls on the Government to provide the full \$550 coronavirus supplement to Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment recipients in recognition that people on these payments are facing increased living costs at this time.

*Statements by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) and Senator Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put and negatived. All Australian Greens and Centre Alliance senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.



## 29 COVID-19—Emergency housing support

Senator Faruqi, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 543—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) housing is a human right and everyone deserves a home,
  - (ii) the COVID-19 crisis has demonstrated how broken our housing system is, with decades of marketisation leading to extraordinarily unfair and inhumane housing outcomes for the community, and
  - (iii) we must ensure a home for all during and after this crisis;
- (b) calls on the National Cabinet to take leadership and put in place:
  - (i) rental holidays and waivers for rent arrears, with increased support to prevent rental debts down the track,
  - (ii) a national freeze on rent rises now and after the pandemic, and
  - (iii) mortgage relief with no interest accrual, a ban on foreclosures and a freeze on owners' credit ratings;
- (c) calls on the Federal Government to increase funding for emergency housing now and beyond this crisis; and
- (d) calls on the Federal Government to include construction of 500,000 new public and community homes in Australia's economic stimulus, to create jobs and provide homes to people.

Question put and negatived. All Australian Greens senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.

## 30 Passing of Mr Jack Munday, AO

Senator Faruqi, also on behalf of Senators McKim, Siewert, Whish-Wilson, Waters, Hanson-Young, Steele-John, Lines, Urquhart, Wong, Keneally, Pratt, Brown, McAllister, Ayres, Bilyk, Walsh, Sheldon, Carr, Watt and Polley, amended general business notice of motion no. 544 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the passing of trailblazing unionist and environmental activist, Jack Munday, AO;
- (b) extends its sincere and heartfelt condolences to Jack Munday's family, friends and comrades; and
- (c) acknowledges and pays tribute to Jack Munday's extraordinary legacies, including:
  - (i) building a proud working class identity among builders' labourers that gave them the confidence and capacity to struggle for improved wages and building site safety and provide principled leadership in a wide range of social and environmental causes,
  - (ii) the Green Bans, through which Jack and the NSW Builders Labourers Federation championed the protection of large swathes of Sydney's irreplaceable bushland, heritage and working-class areas, as well as women's, LGBTIQ and Aboriginal land rights,

- (iii) the foundation and growth of local as well as international green and environmental movements, linked inextricably to the welfare and struggle of workers, and
- (iv) the championing of non-violent direct action in Jack's many fights against social and environmental injustice.

Question put and passed.

### 31 **COVID-19—Increase to the rate of unemployment benefits**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senator McCarthy and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 545—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) since the start of the coronavirus crisis, the number of people receiving unemployment benefits has increased by over 500,000, to more than 1.3 million,
  - (ii) the Department of Social Services expects 1.7 million people to be relying on JobSeeker Payment by September this year,
  - (iii) the Government has temporarily increased the JobSeeker Payment, through the Coronavirus Supplement, but only until 24 September 2020,
  - (iv) the base rate of JobSeeker Payment – previously Newstart – is too low – it traps people in poverty and prevents them from getting work because they cannot afford essentials like transport, training, clothes, equipment and housing, and
  - (v) Deloitte Access Economics has warned the Government against the rapid withdrawal of support, and stated that, at the end of the Coronavirus Supplement period 'there is an obvious case to keep JobSeeker at a higher rate than NewStart'; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to:
  - (i) release economic modelling showing the impact on jobs and the economy of suddenly and completely stopping the Coronavirus Supplement, and
  - (ii) increase the base rate of the JobSeeker Payment when the Coronavirus Supplement ends, to keep people out of poverty and ensure they can get work when it is available.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.

### 32 **Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome**

Senator Siewert, at the request of Senator Steele-John and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 551—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) Tuesday, 12 May 2020 was Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) Awareness Day,

- (ii) ME and CFS are complex, multi-system conditions affecting up to 250,000 Australians – around 25% are so unwell that they are unable to leave home or bed; ME/CFS, which affects mostly women and girls, is a highly misunderstood and underrepresented area of medicine and this has had significant implications for people who journey with it,
- (iii) for too long people who journey with ME/CFS have been ignored, belittled and written-off by society and their government and have been denied care and have suffered discrimination due to outdated and poorly formulated medical guidelines; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to ensure dedicated funding to biomedical research, and increased awareness across our healthcare and social support systems so that people with ME/CFS can have access to the support and care they need.

Question put and passed.

### 33 **Rate of JobSeeker Payment**

Senator Siewert, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 552—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) before the temporary coronavirus supplement was introduced, job seekers in Australia were forced to survive on \$40 a day, and
  - (ii) returning the JobSeeker Payment to the old rate of \$40 a day will condemn unemployed Australians to poverty and will act as a barrier to employment;
- (b) agrees with the Treasurer that we must ensure that Australia's social safety net is underpinned by a sense of decency and fairness; and
- (c) calls on the Government to retain the new rate of JobSeeker Payment of \$1,115 a fortnight to ensure that no one is forced to live in poverty.

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

Question put and negatived. All Australian Greens senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.

### 34 **Migration to Australia**

The Leader of Pauline Hanson's One Nation (Senator Hanson), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 555— That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) more than half the nation's population growth since 2005 has come from overseas migration,
  - (ii) in recent years, the shape and size of our intake has hurt many Australian workers, contributing to unemployment, underemployment and low wage growth,
  - (iii) for Australia to recover economically from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we need a migration program that puts Australian workers first,

- (iv) governments of all stripes have relied on high levels of migration to boost population to fuel economic growth,
- (v) relying on high levels of migration to boost population to fuel economic growth is arguably a lazy approach,
- (vi) letting lots of migrants come to Australia to drive economic growth rather than increasing productivity or investing in skills and training is a lazy approach,
- (vii) instead of letting lots of migrants come to Australia to drive economic growth we should be increasing productivity or investing in skills and training,
- (viii) it is cynical for the Coalition to cap permanent migration at 160,000 a year and claim it as a 'congestion busting' measure, but at the same time allow temporary migration to soar to historically high levels,
- (ix) unlike permanent visas, temporary visas are uncapped,
- (x) as at June 2019 there were 2.1 million temporary visa holders in Australia,
- (xi) Australia hosts the second largest migrant workforce in the OECD, second in total number only to the US,
- (xii) temporary migrants make up a larger part of the labour market than most Australians might realise,
- (xiii) one in five chefs, one in four cooks, one in six hospitality workers, and one in 10 nursing support and personal care workers in Australia hold a temporary visa,
- (xiv) economist Stephen Koukoulas pointed out, before the crisis, that there are 725,000 unemployed and 1,150,000 underemployed Australians who, with the right training, would love to have these roles,
- (xv) wages growth is dead because there are too many temporary work visas for this stage of the economic cycle,
- (xvi) the Coalition's migration policies actually encourage employers in certain geographic areas and some industries to pay temporary migrants a much lower wage than what Australians would earn doing the same job,
- (xvii) the shift to temporary migration means that our migrant intake is younger and lower skilled than it used to be, and this does not help our kids as they join a labour market with 11% youth unemployment,
- (xviii) temporary migration does offer Australia some benefit,
- (xix) in some industries, such as cyber security, where we cannot quickly skill up enough Australians to meet demand, temporary migration can fill gaps in the short term, and in regional areas, horticulture relies on temporary migration to supply a seasonal workforce,
- (xx) as a result of COVID-19, Australia will soon have an opportunity to do something we have never done before: restart a migration program,
- (xxi) when Australia restarts its migration program, we must understand that migration is a key economic policy lever that can help or harm Australian workers during the economic recovery and beyond,
- (xxii) Australians should get a fair go and a first go at jobs,

- (xxiii) our post-COVID-19 economic recovery must ensure that Australia shifts away from its increasing reliance on a cheap supply of overseas, temporary labour that undercuts wages for Australian workers and takes jobs Australians could do,
- (xxiv) we must also ensure that regional areas do not only get transient people, but community members who will settle down, buy houses, start businesses and send their kids to the local school,
- (xxv) coming out of the COVID-19 crisis, Australia can seize the opportunity to follow the lead of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Britain's Conservative Party by restricting low-skilled, temporary migration, asking businesses to invest instead in productivity and skills to provide better jobs for British citizens, and
- (xxvi) the next few months present a great chance for business, unions and the Government to come together to identify coming skill shortages, and deliver training and re-skilling opportunities to Australian workers so they can fill those jobs; and
- (b) calls on the Government to ensure that when Australia restarts its migration program, migrants do not return to Australia in the same numbers and in the same composition as before the crisis.

*Statements by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) and Senators Gallagher and Lambie, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put and negated.

### 35 **Notice of motion withdrawn**

Senator Roberts withdrew general business notice of motion no. 556 standing in his name for today, relating to consumer data right rules.

### 36 **Free trade agreements**

Senator McKim, also on behalf of Senator Steele-John, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 564—That the Senate—

- (a) notes with deep concern that:
  - (i) Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) have created a parallel industrial relations system where corporations write their own rules, and
  - (ii) in the past ten years FTAs have seen an erosion of labour standards, and a failure to include protections for human rights and the environment;
- (b) calls on the Government to seek to renegotiate FTAs which:
  - (i) fail to mandate labour market testing which undermines local jobs and industry,
  - (ii) create a parallel industrial relations system which undermines workers' rights and conditions, and
  - (iii) leave temporary migrant workers extremely vulnerable to exploitation; and
- (c) should the Government fail to renegotiate these FTAs, calls on the Government to withdraw Australia from these damaging FTAs.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and negatived. All Australian Greens, Centre Alliance, Pauline Hanson's One Nation senators and Senator Lambie, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.

### 37 **COVID-19—Economic support for people with disability**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senator Bilyk and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 541—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the coronavirus crisis has increased costs for many people with disability and carers, for instance: higher energy bills, extra transport costs from avoiding public transport, grocery delivery charges, missing out on shopping at the market for specials, as well as extra health, and protective equipment costs,
  - (ii) despite the two \$750 Economic Support Payments, many people on the Disability Support Pension are temporarily receiving a lower payment rate than people on JobSeeker Payment, when the Coronavirus Supplement is taken into account,
  - (iii) many carers are also being left in situations where they are worse off – particularly if they are caring for children with disability,
  - (iv) the Government can make changes to extend additional support to people who need it with the stroke of a pen; and
  - (v) the second Economic Support Payment will not be paid until 13 July – nine weeks away – despite people with disability and carers facing extra costs now; and
- (b) calls on the Government to allow people with disability and carers who have increased costs to bring forward the second \$750 Economic Support Payment.

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

Question put and passed.

### 38 **Active transport infrastructure**

Senator Rice, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 547—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
  - (i) that Australians have resumed or taken up bike riding in large numbers for exercise, leisure, and physically-distanced transport during the COVID-19 related restrictions on broader movement,
  - (ii) the importance of well-designed and properly funded infrastructure to support walking and cycling as healthy, clean and efficient modes of active transport for Australians of all ages,
  - (iii) that traffic congestion and pollution can be relieved by providing people with safe cycling routes, and

- (iv) that the Federal Government funds a range of transport modes and has historically funded infrastructure for cycling and walking, yet the current government provides very little funding to active transport; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to invest in infrastructure for active transport, both as a stimulus measure in response to the health and economic challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, and as a measure to improve active transport infrastructure beyond the pandemic.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

#### AYES, 26

Senators—

Ayres	Gallacher	McCarthy	Siewert
Bilyk	Gallagher	McKim	Urquhart*
Carr	Griff	Patrick	Walsh
Chisholm	Hanson-Young	Pratt	Waters
Ciccone	Kitching	Rice	Watt
Di Natale	Lines	Sheldon	Whish-Wilson
Faruqi	McAllister		

#### NOES, 27

Senators—

Askew	Cormann	Lambie	Roberts
Birmingham	Davey	McDonald	Ruston
Bragg	Fawcett	McGrath	Ryan
Canavan	Hanson	O'Sullivan	Smith, Dean*
Cash	Henderson	Paterson	Stoker
Chandler	Hughes	Rennick	Van
Colbeck	Hume	Reynolds	

\* Tellers

Question negatived.

### 39 **Jobkeeper program**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senator Pratt and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 549—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Australian Council of Trade Unions, and Labor, recognising the importance of maintaining the link between workers and employers during the COVID-19 pandemic, argued for a wage subsidy program well before the Prime Minister accepted one was necessary,
  - (ii) the Government concedes it undershot its own JobKeeper enrolment targets by half a million workers, as employers trying to understand their eligibility struggle with the complexity of the program and how to access it,
  - (iii) data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows massive job losses and hits to workers' wages concentrated in industries dominated by the casual workers the Government has excluded from JobKeeper,

- (iv) the Treasurer still has the power to include more workers in the scheme and protect more jobs, and
- (v) the Government is openly canvassing an early windback of JobKeeper, rather than helping struggling Australians access it; and
- (b) calls on the Treasurer to:
  - (i) urgently use his power to address gaps in the JobKeeper program to protect more jobs now, and
  - (ii) ensure longer-term support is provided to Australian workers, businesses and communities in the months and years ahead.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

#### AYES, 27

Senators—

Ayres	Gallacher	McAllister	Siewert
Bilyk	Gallagher	McCarthy	Urquhart*
Carr	Griff	McKim	Walsh
Chisholm	Hanson-Young	Patrick	Waters
Ciccone	Kitching	Pratt	Watt
Di Natale	Lambie	Rice	Whish-Wilson
Faruqi	Lines	Sheldon	

#### NOES, 27

Senators—

Askew	Cormann	McDonald	Reynolds
Birmingham	Davey	McGrath	Roberts
Bragg	Fawcett	McKenzie	Ruston
Canavan	Hanson	McMahon	Ryan
Cash	Henderson	O'Sullivan	Smith, Dean*
Chandler	Hughes	Paterson	Van
Colbeck	Hume	Rennick	

\* Tellers

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

## 40 Australian citizenship ceremonies

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators Keneally, Ciccone and Walsh and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 553—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Department of Home Affairs is currently overseeing a backlog of 85,000 people still waiting to make their pledge at an Australian citizenship ceremony,
  - (ii) after years of living in and contributing to our country, prospective citizens are now waiting upwards of two years for a ceremony,
  - (iii) these Australians are being forced to wait years for the chance to pledge themselves in front of communities they have helped to build,



- (iv) citizenship ceremonies are important events that bring our communities together and should be treated with priority,
  - (v) trials of one-on-one online ceremonies are now taking place and progress is being made, but the Government has provided very little information about who is being included and how long people will need to wait for their ceremony, and
  - (vi) the Government has not provided vital information to tens of thousands of people who are waiting for their citizenship interviews and tests; and
- (b) urges the Government to:
- (i) provide transparency to people working to become Australian citizens, and
  - (ii) act quickly to avoid extending citizenship processing times even further.

*Statement by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

#### AYES, 28

Senators—

Ayres	Gallacher	McAllister	Sheldon
Bilyk	Gallagher	McCarthy	Siewert
Carr	Griff	McKim	Urquhart*
Chisholm	Hanson	Patrick	Walsh
Ciccone	Hanson-Young	Pratt	Waters
Di Natale	Kitching	Rice	Watt
Faruqi	Lines	Roberts	Whish-Wilson

#### NOES, 26

Senators—

Askew	Cormann	McDonald	Rennick
Birmingham	Davey	McGrath	Reynolds
Bragg	Fawcett	McKenzie	Ruston
Canavan	Henderson	McMahon	Ryan
Cash	Hughes	O'Sullivan	Smith, Dean*
Chandler	Hume	Paterson	Van
Colbeck	Lambie		

\* Tellers

Question agreed to.

## 41 **Transport security**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senators Gallacher, Wong, Farrell and Marielle Smith and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 554—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the management of transport security is critical to our national security and to regional communities in South Australia,

- (ii) on 8 May 2018, the Morrison Government announced measures to ‘further strengthen Australia’s domestic and international aviation security’, which included the introduction of body scanners and improved luggage screening technology at airports,
- (iii) regional airlines and airports in South Australia have expressed concern that the cost of these upgrades will make regional airline services economically unviable,
- (iv) the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee began public hearings into this matter on 7 May 2020,
- (v) the Committee heard evidence that:
  - (A) a Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications case study noted the cost of a flight to Whyalla would increase by \$52 per passenger per flight,
  - (B) Whyalla City Council is concerned that an increase in security costs may result in one of the two major airlines that use the airport exiting the market, impacting the local economy, and
  - (C) Regional Express Airlines said that the airline’s profit margin is approximately \$10 per passenger, and if the airline was required to pay security costs, they would no longer make a profit,
- (vi) at the hearing, Senator Rennick stated that ‘We’re not talking about airports, we’re talking about national security, right. And, you know, something that we’ve got to get sorted out here, because we just had it with the Ruby Princess. Okay, and I’m a member of the federal government, and it’s our job to look after national security. So this sort of pushing it out on the private enterprise or rather sort of smaller, it just leads to confusion and ambiguous responsibilities as to who’s responsible for what. So I think that we ought to take a good look at whether or not it’s better for us to do a holistic national approach, rather than the piecemeal airport by airport, which is going to hurt a lot of airports in the region. And I think before, you know, any more changes in regulations or decisions are made, that we look at a national approach. Because if it’s good enough for the US and New Zealand, I think it’s something that we should also take a serious look at, I’ll just leave it at that. Thanks,’ and
- (vii) Senator Rennick is correct in saying that:
  - (A) the Morrison Government is responsible for national security at our airports and seaports,
  - (B) the Morrison Government’s current approach to national security has led to ‘confusion and ambiguous responsibilities as to who’s responsible for what’, and
  - (C) the Morrison Government’s approach to regional aviation security will potentially ‘hurt a lot of airports in the region’;
- (b) commends the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for its ongoing work in this area, and its long-standing history of representing rural and regional Australians on important policy issues; and

- (c) condemns the Morrison Government for its implementation of airport security upgrades to date, which are causing confusion and leading to the potential loss of airports, airline services, and jobs in regional South Australia.

Senator Patrick, by leave, moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add:

- (d) acknowledges that the position expressed in this motion is consistent with the purpose of the motion for the disallowance of the Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Security Controlled Airports) Regulations 2019; and
- (e) is of the opinion that senators should support the motion for the disallowance of the Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Security Controlled Airports) Regulations 2019.

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

*Statements by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) and Senator Patrick, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

#### AYES, 27

Senators—

Ayres	Gallacher	McAllister	Siewert
Bilyk	Gallagher	McCarthy	Urquhart*
Carr	Griff	McKim	Walsh
Chisholm	Hanson-Young	Patrick	Waters
Ciccone	Kitching	Pratt	Watt
Di Natale	Lambie	Rice	Whish-Wilson
Faruqi	Lines	Sheldon	

#### NOES, 27

Senators—

Askew	Cormann	McGrath	Roberts
Birmingham	Davey	McKenzie	Ruston
Bragg	Fawcett	McMahon	Ryan
Canavan	Hanson	O'Sullivan	Smith, Dean*
Cash	Henderson	Paterson	Stoker
Chandler	Hughes	Rennick	Van
Colbeck	Hume	Reynolds	

\* Tellers

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

## 42 COVID-19—Racist behaviour

Senator Van, also on behalf of Senators Dean Smith and Hughes, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 542—That the Senate notes that—

- (a) Australia is the most successful multicultural society in the world, and this success can be credited to the substantial contributions that migrants make to this country;
- (b) the increased reporting of racist attacks across the country, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic and the impact that it is having on individuals and local communities, is concerning;

- (c) coronavirus does not discriminate against any race – it does not infect people based on family heritage and no Australian should ever face aggressive acts based on their race or heritage;
- (d) the actions of those who undertake such cowardly behaviour must be condemned in the strongest manner possible, and their behaviour does not represent Australians or Australian society as a whole; and
- (e) the Government has taken swift action to call out racist behaviour and condemn the actions that seek to divide our socially cohesive nation.

Senator Urquhart, by leave, moved the following amendment:

Omit paragraph (e), substitute:

- (e) the Federal Government has not funded a national anti-racism campaign in 7 years and calls on the Morrison Government to:
  - (i) implement a national anti-racism strategy that takes a zero-tolerance approach to racism, and
  - (ii) implement a national anti-racism campaign.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and negatived. All Opposition senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.

The question was divided at the request of Senator Urquhart.

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

Question—That the motion be agreed to in respect of paragraph (e)—put and passed. All Opposition and Australian Greens senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the noes.

#### 43 **Marginalisation of ethnically diverse communities**

Senator Di Natale, also on behalf of Senators Faruqi and Griff, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 562—That the Senate—

- (a) notes with serious concern the further marginalisation of ethnically diverse communities in Australia during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) recognises that:
  - (i) anti-Asian racism has spiked during COVID-19, and there has been a sharp increase in reported cases of racist incidents in the public and racial discrimination complaints made to the Australian Human Rights Commission, and
  - (ii) the Asian Australian Alliance's COVID-19 Incident Report Survey found that 81% of the respondents said recent racist incidents they experienced were a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (c) celebrates Australia's cultural diversity as essential to who we are as a nation; and
- (d) calls on the Government to:
  - (i) fund an ongoing national anti-racism campaign through the Australian Human Rights Commission,

- (ii) establish a charter of rights that ensures everyone in Australia is treated equally with guaranteed access to essential services, and that the Government cannot discriminate against anyone based on the colour of their skin or their visa status,
- (iii) take a stand against racism by adding hate speech to the Criminal Code Act; and
- (iv) ensure that ethnically diverse communities are not left behind in the nation's recovery from COVID-19.

*Statements by leave:* The Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) and Senator Gallagher, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

The question was divided at the request of Senator Urquhart.

Question—That the motion be agreed to with clauses (d)(ii) and (d)(iii) omitted—put and negatived. All Opposition senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.

*Ruling by the President:* The President ruled that, as a consequence of the first question being negatived, he could not proceed to put the question on the remaining clauses, which could not stand alone.

All Australian Greens and Centre Alliance senators, by leave, recorded their votes in support of the entire motion.

All Pauline Hanson's One Nation senators and Senator Lambie, by leave, recorded their votes in opposition to the entire motion.

#### 44 **Food labelling**

Senator Roberts amended general business notice of motion no. 557 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Federal Government is responsible for country of origin labelling under the 'Country of Origin Food Labelling Information Standard 2016' issued under Part IVB of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, and
  - (ii) non-food items are required to be labelled with a country of origin label pursuant to 'Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Regulation 2016' issued under the *Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act 1905*, section 3;
- (b) further notes that:
  - (i) numerous examples of failure to comply with clear country of origin labels are being raised by concerned Australians, and
  - (ii) there is a growing public sentiment in favour of locally made products; and
- (c) calls on the Government to enforce existing provisions in subparagraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) on legibility and location of country of origin labelling on imported goods.

Question put and passed.

**45 Collins Class submarines—Document**

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

Collins Class submarines—Statement by the Minister for Families and Social Services (Senator Ruston) relating to general business notice of motion no. 560, dated 13 May 2020.

**46 Discussion of matter of public importance—Australia’s migration program**

The President informed the Senate that the following matter of public importance submitted by Senator Roberts under standing order 75 had been selected for discussion today:

When Australia restarts our migration program, we do not want migrants to return to Australia in the same numbers and in the same composition as before the crisis.

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

**47 Notice**

Senator Hanson-Young, by leave, gave notice as follows: To move on the next day of sitting—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia, by 9 am on 22 May 2020, the review into round one of the Water for Fodder program undertaken by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, required under the agreement between the Australian and South Australian governments. (*general business notice of motion no. 590*)

*Notice of motion withdrawn:* Senator Dean Smith, on behalf Senator Rennick, withdrew general business notice of motion no. 570 given today, relating to the COVID-19 response.

**48 Documents—Consideration**

The documents tabled earlier today (*see entry no. 2*) were called on but no motion was moved.

**49 Skilled visas—Document**

Senator McKim, by leave, tabled the following document:

Skilled visas—Petitioning document from 11,755 signatories relating to 457 and 482 skilled visa holders returning to Australia.

**50 Committee reports and government responses—Tabling and consideration**

Senator Ciccone, at the request of the Chair of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills (Senator Polley), tabled the following reports:

Scrutiny of Bills—Standing Committee—

Annual report 2019, dated 13 May 2020.

Scrutiny digest 6 of 2020, dated 13 May 2020.

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Senator Ciccone, at the request of the Deputy Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (Senator Brown), tabled the following report and documents:

National Disability Insurance Scheme—Joint Standing Committee—Supported Independent Living—Report, dated May 2020, and submissions.

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

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

**51 Australian parliamentary delegation to 65th Annual Session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, London—Document**

Senator Fawcett, by leave, tabled the following document:

65th Annual Session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, London—Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation, 12 to 14 October 2019.

Senator Fawcett, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the document.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

**52 Australia's COVID-19 health response—Ministerial statement—Document**

The Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians (Senator Colbeck) tabled the following document:

Australia's COVID-19 health response—Ministerial statement by the Minister for Health (Mr Hunt), dated 13 May 2020.

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

Debate ensued.

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

**53 Notice**

Senator Urquhart, at the request of Senator Gallagher, by leave, gave notice as follows: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) the Government said that the economy would 'snap back' after the end of the COVID-19 crisis,
- (ii) the Reserve Bank and Deloitte have forecast unemployment to remain at elevated levels for years,
- (iii) members of the Government are calling for the early end of the JobKeeper Payment, and
- (iv) Government ministers have confirmed that JobSeeker will revert back to \$40 per day in September this year; and

(b) calls on the Government to:

- (i) table Treasury's review into JobKeeper in the Senate as soon as it is finalised,

- (ii) as soon as possible, provide certainty to people on the JobSeeker Payment that they won't be 'snap-backed' to living on \$40 per day; and
- (iii) outline a plan for jobs and for reducing unemployment in the Government's economic update when it is delivered in June. (*general business notice of motion no. 591*)

#### 54 **Committee membership**

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

The Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians (Senator Colbeck), by leave, moved—That senators be discharged from and appointed to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee as follows:

Discharged—

Senator Watt

Participating member: Senator Green

Appointed—

Senator Green

Participating member: Senator Watt.

Question put and passed.

#### 55 **Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Security Controlled Airports) Regulations 2019—Proposed disallowance**

Senator Patrick, pursuant to notice, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1—That the Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Security Controlled Airports) Regulations 2019, made under the *Aviation Transport Security Act 2004*, be disallowed [F2019L01656].

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived. All Australian Greens senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.

#### 56 **Adjournment**

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

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 7.54 pm till Thursday, 14 May 2020 at 9.30 am.

#### 57 **Attendance**

Present, all senators except Senators Brown\*, Dodson\*, Duniam\*, Green\*, McLachlan\*, Molan\*, O'Neill\*, Polley\*, Seselja\*, Steele-John\* and Sterle\* (\*on leave).

**RICHARD PYE**  
Clerk of the Senate