

WEEKLY UPDATE: 5th, October, 2018

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THIS WEEK:

We announced a wonderful educational boost for the nation's children; a new two year National Preschool and Kindy Program, guaranteeing around 700,000 Australian children a year will be able to access subsidised preschool. For the first time, every three year old in Australia will be able to access 15 hours of subsidised early childhood education, so they can get the best start to learning.

This is the biggest ever investment in early childhood education in Australian history, an additional \$1.75 billion. It's what the smart countries are doing. The United Kingdom, New Zealand, France, Ireland and China have all expanded their early childhood education programs to include three year olds and a recent study from the EU showed that for every dollar spent on early childhood education for 3 year olds, \$4 was returned to the economy.

This is a product of years of policy development begun when Kate Ellis was our Shadow in this area.

This policy announcement also meshes with our commitment to wage justice for child care workers and early childhood educators.

*If we truly value our children we must invest in their earliest years and invest in the professionals who take care of them by recognising the value of both. **If anyone wants any additional information about these policies just call my office.***

Also this week, the Council on Federal Financial Relations terminated the application of GST to tampons and other women's sanitary products, finally agreeing that they are, essential.

I protested against this tax from the day the Howard government announced the introduction of the GST in 2000 remembering that when John Howard was re-elected leader of the Liberal party in 1995, he pledged "never, ever" to introduce the GST. However, before the 1998 election, Howard proposed a GST that included women's sanitary products. Many, many women have also lobbied strenuously against this injustice for decades, finally a victory. As they say, all things come to those who wait. This saying was first used by the English poet Lady Mary Montgomerie Currie (1843-1905), under her pseudonym of Violet Fane, in her poem; 'Tout vient a qui sait attendre':

*"All hoped-for things will come to you
Who have the strength to watch and wait,
Our longings spur the steeds of Fate,
This has been said by one who knew."*

SENATOR CLAIRE MOORE, LABOR SENATOR FOR QUEENSLAND

Senator Claire Moore
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CLAIRE'S WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

If there is material you would like included or expanded upon, please let us know. If you think that others would like to receive copies please let us know and we will include them on the mailing lists.

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WHAT'S BEING SAID ...



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - SHORTEN-TODAY SHOW CHANNEL 9

"Labor has made a decision that we want to offer universal preschool, 15 hours a week, 40 weeks of the year, to all three and four year olds in Australia."

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - BOWEN ABC RN BREAKFAST

"What we are offering Fran is the fact that at the moment only 57 per cent of Australian three year olds get access to preschool. 57 per cent. The average in the developed world is 78 per cent. We are about 20 percentage points behind the developed world. Now we can do better than this Fran and if you look at the UK, New Zealand, Ireland and China they have all gone down the road of two years worth of preschool."

"Some of the smartest countries in the world are doing it; Australia has fallen behind." - Bill Shorten

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - BOWEN ABC RN BREAKFAST

"We are falling behind, we are coming 22 out of 30 in the OECD at the moment in early childhood education and we know that 90 per cent of a child's brain develops before the age of five. And we also know through study after study after study around the world, the return on this investment is very significant."

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - RISHWORTH - ABC RADIO ADELAIDE

"The research is in and the research clearly demonstrates that learning doesn't start at school, learning starts well beyond that and investment in the two years before school actually pays huge dividends."

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - SHORTEN-TODAY SHOW CHANNEL 9

"All of the experts show that 90 per cent of a child's brain develops before they turn five. So we need to make sure that they're getting age appropriate, quality learning in their early years. I think that's a much better investment for the future of this country."

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - BOWEN ABC RN BREAKFAST

"I mean one of the achievements of the Rudd and Gillard Governments was universal access to preschool for four-year-olds, lifting it to a very high level. This will end, run out next year. The Morrison Government is saying they won't continue it. I mean this is an outrage."

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - SHORTEN - BRISBANE

"That is why I just do not understand why Prime Minister Scott Morrison is essentially cutting funding for four year olds' educational preschool from 2020. They have simply cancelled the funding after next year. What this means is that the 347,000 four year olds who would be seeking universal access to preschool in 2020, there's no money at all."

CHILDCARE WAGES - SHORTEN - BRISBANE

"There's no doubt that this nation is relying on a gender pay gap to subsidise the care and education of our young ones. What I specifically mean, is that because early childhood educators are predominantly women, we've seen an undervaluing of this sector of work compared to other occupations and industries where men are the predominant number of employees. So we're working on policies right now to improve the pay equity."

PAYING FOR POLICY - SHORTEN-ABC TV NEWS BREAKFAST

"That's why we are going to reform unsustainable tax concessions which principally flow to the very well-off and we want to reuse some of that money not just to pay down debt, not just to give tax refunds to people under \$100,000, but we want to invest in passing on a better deal to the next generation than the one we received from our parents".

BANKING ROYAL COMMISSION - RISHWORTH - ABC RADIO 891 ADELAIDE



"The government sets the Terms of Reference and indeed sets the timeframe, so the government could take leadership and extend the Royal Commission. The reason why we want to see the extension of time in the Royal Commission, of course is to make sure victims do get a voice. We have only had 27 victims out of close to 9,000 submissions actually have their voice heard."

CEO PAY TRANSPERANCY - LEIGH - 3AW DRIVE - MELBOURNE

"What we've announced does no more than to follow what United States and the United Kingdom have already put in place. Let's be honest. Since 2012, workers basically have not gotten a real pay rise. There's one exception to that and that's CEOs, who saw a 9 per cent pay rise last year. So we've got a huge amount of money flowing through to shareholders and to CEOs, but not flowing through to average workers."

WAGES POLICY - SHORTEN-ABC TV NEWS BREAKFAST

"In plain English, the workers are getting left behind, corporate profits are up and we do need a better wages policy."

GST DISTRIBUTION - BOWEN-FAIRFIELD SYDNEY

"Well it's pretty hard to unite the States and Territories when it comes to GST distribution but Scott Morrison and Josh Frydenberg have managed it. The States united against their arrogant proposal not to ensure States and Territories that they won't be worse off in the legislation in relation to GST distribution."

AGED CARE - SHORTEN - BRISBANE

"The reality is that Labor has been saying there's been a crisis in aged care. When I called that out earlier this year, the Government didn't do anything to help older Australians, instead they just attacked and abused me and said I was fear mongering, I was just telling the truth. The aged care system is in crisis."

AGED CARE - SHORTEN - BRISBANE

"We support there being a Royal Commission but what this government can do without waiting for a Royal Commission, is start tackling the unacceptable waiting list for aged care places. In Australia, there are now a 121,000 older Australians who are waiting to be assessed about what aged care packages they can get, to either help them live at home, or indeed if they have complex higher needs, in residential care. I think it is a disgrace, it is shocking, and it's morally repugnant that you've got a government spending money - taxpayer money - advertising trying to convince people there isn't a problem and you got 121,000 of our fellow Australians waiting for packages."

"CLEAN UP IN TAX AISLE FIVE!"



TAMPON TAX - O'CONNOR - ABC RADIO DRIVE MELBOURNE

"It should never have been imposed by the Howard Government. It was an essential product and really it was unfair towards women."

457 VISAS - SHORTEN-ABC TV NEWS BREAKFAST

"There are disadvantages in that there is an inadequate amount of what's called labour market testing or, in other words, there is concern expressed by people, including myself, that the Government is not doing enough to make sure that Australians get prioritised for first go for Australian jobs."

CHILDREN ON NAURU - SHORTEN-ABC TV NEWS BREAKFAST

"I have been watching very carefully what the AMA has been saying. It isn't acceptable that if children need medical treatment

they should be left to languish on the Nauru. Full stop."

MANUFACTURING NQ - CARR ABC FAR NORTH RADIO CAIRNS

"So we're here today to talk about Labor's program, particular in regard to manufacturing and our \$1 billion Advanced Manufacturing Future Fund to help companies. There's over 500 manufacturing companies in the Cairns region that could benefit from access to finance, which is a really big problem for manufacturers."

NATIONAL DEBT - SHORTEN-TODAY SHOW CHANNEL 9

"Did you know Karl that since they have got into power they have doubled the national debt?"

"The real issue here is that the national debt is now north of half a trillion dollars. That means effectively, every man, woman and child when the Coalition got in had about \$9000 of national debt, now its north of \$20,000."

ENERGY POLICY - CONROY - SPEECH - ALL ENERGY CONFERENCE - MELBOURNE

"It's hard to think of a policy arena that has seen more policy change over the last two years than energy. A sector that makes investments with forty year time horizons has seen six energy policies in the last two years. In fact, there have been four different energy policies since August!"

ABC - SHORTEN - MELBOURNE

"In the meantime how about the current Prime Minister warning the ABC that if they don't do something he will. What is it the Liberals don't get about ABC independence? They interfere with the choice of directors they cut the funding of the ABC, they appoint their mates and that doesn't work out and then they just blame the ABC for everything that is going wrong. This is a failure of governance, it's a failure of politics, it's a failure of the Government."

GOVERNMENT ENNUJ - ALBANESE - 2CC RADIO SYDNEY

"It's stopped governing, it doesn't do anything. It moves legislation in the Parliament and then you don't hear it again - during the last sitting fortnight I was dealing with legislation that was introduced in 2016 and it just sat there. This is a Government that changes its mind on policy all of the time." "I've dealt with four Infrastructure Ministers in the last couple of years."

SULAWESI TSUNAMI- SHORTEN - MELBOURNE

"I'd just say this: Indonesia is our nearest neighbour, when your neighbour has a crisis, a very serious crisis, neighbour's help neighbours. So I just want to extend Labor's sympathy."

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"If Labor hadn't called for the Royal Commission, we wouldn't have one. If Mr Morrison had his way we still wouldn't have one. Like it or not, the banking system and the way it has treated its victims is political. - Bill Shorten

"Labor's early call for a royal commission into the banks has turned out to be what is an increasingly rare combination - good politics and good policy." – Jennifer Hewett (AFR)

"We need to hop into some of these roosters. I mean these people have ripped Australians off." – Anthony Albanese

"It was actually probably safer in Afghanistan than it was in Canberra." – Christopher Pyne (Reflecting on visiting our soldiers there)

"We should be a nation who hands on a better deal to the next generation, not a worse deal." – Bill Shorten

"You choke on your Weeties," – Paul Keating on Malcolm Turnbull

"If you needed to know what Malcolm Turnbull truly believes in, what he would die in a ditch over, you would need a microscope to help you find it." – Paul Keating on Malcolm Turnbull

"My eight year old is driving me crazy to meet Meghan Markle - there's no question that the royals - that every little girl loves a princess." – Bill Shorten

QUOTE OF THE YEAR (So far...)

"How was it in Australia that if you steal from a bank, you go to jail. But if a bank steals from you, see who gets a promotion and a bonus and a golden package. – Bill Shorten

GLIMPSES

DENIAL

Key architect of the Paris climate agreement Laurence Tubiana has slammed the Coalition government's inaction on carbon emissions as both going "against the science" and an economic and diplomatic risk for Australia.

According to [The Sydney Morning Herald](#), the French diplomat and economist also rejected Prime Minister Scott Morrison's belief that Australia will meet its 2030 goal "at a canter", instead pointing to "the consensus in the scientific community" on [carbon records and trajectories](#). With an upcoming IPCC report set to warn that Earth will exceed its 1.5°C threshold by 2040 without drastic action, Tubiana is also calling for Australia and other countries to improve their 2030 pledges.

JUST AN ACCOUNTING TRICK

This privatisation of responsibility for Australia's most precious and vulnerable environmental asset is outrageous. What we have as a result of this is not just bad policy for the environment, this is bad economic policy as well because Prime Minister Morrison has conceded that the only reason why this one off payment of almost half a billion dollars was made was to fiddle the budget figures in terms of returning to surplus sooner than would otherwise occur.

"As a direct result of this, you will have Government departments and agencies actually having to apply to a private foundation in order to receive funds to deal with the environmental protection of the Great Barrier Reef..

What this payment does is mean that in the order of \$11 million will be paid in interest by Australian taxpayers each and every year because of the increased level of government debt. What we know also is that because this payment was made one off on the 28th of June, in order to get it out before the financial year last year ended, this payment can be seen as just a fiddle rather than representing any rational expenditure of government funds." – **Anthony Albanese**

REEF TROUGH

More than \$25 million in taxpayer-funded Great Barrier Reef contracts were handed to companies linked to a prominent Liberal National Party donor and his wife while she served on the board of the government agency controlling the funds. Col McKenzie, a veteran marine tourism figure in north Queensland for more than three decades, has made a series of donations to the LNP and Labor through the Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators, one of the companies awarded the government contracts.

SCOTT TRUMP (The New Daily)

On Sunday, Prime Minister Scott Morrison, told a blatant fib on national television. In an interview with Barrie Cassidy on ABC's *Insiders*, he declared that Australia would meet its 2030 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target "in a canter". As [The New Daily demonstrated in some detail](#), this is simply not true. The government's own research shows we are on track to fall short of our commitments, and not just by a little bit. A vast chasm separates us from our 2030 target. Mr Morrison surely knows this, but his comments to the contrary show he has as relaxed and open a relationship with the truth as Donald Trump.



CLIMATE DECEIT

In the lead-up to the weekend's AFL and NRL grand finals, and coinciding with the banking royal commission's interim report, the Department of Environment and Energy released [a quarterly emissions report](#) demonstrating a 1.3% annual increase to March 2018.

The reporting of Australia's rising emissions has been buried on a number of occasions, with data released on Christmas Eve, on weekends, holiday periods, or during major events. It's a cynical attempt to avoid scrutiny.

DENIER (The Age)

Prominent Liberal Party backbencher Craig Kelly has told party members they should not worry about climate change and fossil fuels were among the reasons "we are so safe". In an address in Sydney last Wednesday Mr Kelly said "we've always had dangerous weather" and that "even the climate has changed in space". "The reality is today, we live in a time where our generation has never ever been as safe from the climate at any time in human history," Mr Kelly told the group, according to a recording of his speech. "The climate was always dangerous. We didn't make it dangerous, [and] it's fossil fuels that protect us from that climate."



GUILT



Prime Minister Scott Morrison has formally granted Malcolm Turnbull and wife Lucy a taxpayer-funded overseas travel entitlement - something no other former prime minister has listed in their allowances.

The arrangement was quietly issued last month and allows for the "provision of resources" when the former Liberal leader is "undertaking international travel as approved by the prime minister in writing from time to time".

But Mr Turnbull has distanced himself from the entitlement, telling Fairfax Media he didn't ask for it.

If Mr Morrison gives written approval for Mr Turnbull's international travel, he "may also approve for the spouse or de facto partner of the former prime minister" to accompany him. A staff member would also be entitled to join.

A spokesman for Mr Morrison said he had "simply formalised what has been an informal arrangement" and that it was "standard practice for the international travel work expense to be extended to the spouse".

HOW TO TREAT TAX DODGERS – David Margan

Fan Bingbing is reputed to be the highest paid female actor in the world. She recently, simply, disappeared and now with her sudden reappearance it appears she was whisked away by Chinese officials and re-educated as to her fiscal responsibilities to the state like paying your fair share of tax. One of the biggest celebrities in China, film star Fan Bingbing has now released a letter of apology for massive tax evasion – her first social media post in almost half a year.

Just hours after China's tax department announced she would need to pay a total of 883.9 million yuan (\$179.4 million) in unpaid taxes and fines, the 37-year old broke her silence on the social media platform Weibo.

Posting a letter to her 62 million followers, the X-Men and Iron Man star said "In the recent period of time, I've never experienced such pain and torment; I've profoundly reflected and engaged in self-examination, and I feel deep shame and guilt about my behaviour, and for this I'd like to say to everyone I'm sincerely sorry".

We wouldn't need expensive Royal Commissions if our financial architects of greed, theft, avoidance and malfeasance could be 'disappeared'.

LEIGH ON GREED

A Shorten Government will not only ensure Australia gets a pay rise, but will encourage a stronger conversation within firms about the pay gap between the corner office and the factory floor. By requiring large listed firms to report the pay ratio between the CEO and the median employee, companies will be encouraged to think about how they are serving all their workers, and society as a whole. In the Banking Royal Commission, we have seen the result of a 'greed is good' philosophy that extracts value for managers and investors at the expense of customers and workers.

A smarter approach, set out by corporate management expert Lynn Stout, is to recognise that a company's purpose is not only provide equity investors with solid returns, 'but also to build great products, to provide decent livelihoods for employees, and to contribute to the community and nation'. It's not just a more equitable, but more sustainable. And in the long-run, it's likely to leave us less vulnerable to the boom-and-bust cycle. Stronger unions, better wage growth, and fairer firms are the recipe for a more prosperous society. - Andrew Leigh - Extract of a

Speech "Why unions are vital to Advance Australia Fair." - Maurice Blackburn, Melbourne

GST BOLLOCKS

Queensland could be worse off by more than \$3 billion by 2026 under proposed changes to the GST in a worst case scenario discussed by treasurers. The state would receive \$3.2 billion less in GST funds over eight years if Western Australia enjoyed another mining boom while east coast states slumped, according to modelling prepared by Victorian Treasury. NSW would lose \$5.5 billion and Victoria \$4.6 billion under the scenario. The modelling was used by the east coast states to justify their demands for Prime Minister Scott Morrison to guarantee no state would be worse off under his planned changes.

BIG BROTHER



IS WATCHING YOU

CYBER THREAT

A diverse group of consumer representatives, human rights organisations, industry, technology and telecommunications companies has today joined forces under the banner Alliance for a Safe and Secure Internet with a plea to the Government to slow down, stop ignoring the concerns of technology experts, and

listen to its citizens when they raise legitimate concerns with the Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill 2018.

They have united around a call for the so-called "Encryption Bill" to be rejected in its present form.

"This Bill stands to have a huge impact on millions of Australians, so it is crucial that lawmakers reject this proposal in its present form before we sleepwalk into a digital dystopia," said board member of Digital Rights Watch and spokesperson for the Alliance, Lizzie O'Shea.

The Alliance has been formed as the Federal Government has been reluctant to listen to cyber security specialists, technology experts and leaders from civil society organisations. It represents a unique concert of voices – ranging from consumer representatives, human rights groups to industry, Telcos and technology companies – who sometimes disagree on policy questions, but have come together for the first time as a unified voice.

"As a group, we are so concerned by the Bill that we feel it is our collective civic duty to use our voices to make sure that the public is aware of the alarming legislation the Federal Government is attempting to rush through Parliament with its Assistance and Access Bill," said O'Shea.

The draft Bill was made public in mid-August and, following a three week consultation process, a large number of submissions from concerned citizens and organisation were received by the Department of Home Affairs. Only a week after the consultation closed the Bill was rushed into Parliament with only very minor amendments, meaning that almost all the expert recommendations for changes to the Bill were ignored by Government.

Communications Alliance CEO, John Stanton, also a spokesperson for the Alliance, said the proposed legislation would put unprecedented powers into the hands of enforcement agencies without judicial or proper Ministerial oversight.

"The scope of this legislation sets a disturbing first-world benchmark and poses real threats to the cyber security and privacy rights of all Australians," he said.



KIWI SPIES

Travellers entering New Zealand who refuse to disclose passwords for their digital devices during forced searches could face prosecution and fines of up to \$NZ5000, in a move border officials say could be a world first.

Under the Customs and Excise Act 2018, which came into force this week, officials are able to demand travellers unlock any electronic device so it can be searched. Anyone who refuses can face prosecution and a fine of up to \$NZ5000 (\$4581). The law also gives agents the authority to copy any data on searched devices.

OH NO, NOT MY BANK TOO!

Banks that are not signatories to the Banking Code of Practice cannot use that as an excuse for bad behaviour after Commissioner Hayne rejected Bendigo Bank's argument that it was not guilty of misconduct because it hadn't signed up to the code. In his interim report Commissioner Hayne rejected arguments from Bendigo's subsidiary Rural Bank that to judge the behaviour of its bankers against the code of conduct was "inappropriate and unsound" because it had not decided to sign the code until December 2017. "I do not accept that submission," Commissioner Hayne said. "I consider that, by at least the end of 2004, if not earlier, the code was a 'recognised and widely adopted benchmark for conduct'. Accordingly, non-compliance with the code by Rural Bank would have constituted misconduct".

Rural Bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bendigo and had been called before the Royal Commission to explain the circumstances behind the bank's writing of 62 non-performing loans to Queensland cattle farmers.

In December 2011 the bank began to take steps to improve its processes. Commissioner Hayne said it was concerning that Rural Bank did not implement the changes sooner.

DAMAGE LIMITATION (Fairfax Media)



Commissioner Mr Kenneth Hayne AC QC
Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry

"The commission will continue to conduct its inquiry in line with the terms of reference set by the government," the spokesman said. "The commission's final report is due to be submitted to the Governor General by February, 1, 2019."

The commission has held six rounds of public hearings since February. Another two-week round is scheduled from November 19. By the time it finishes it will have heard 69 days of evidence. According to the commission's website, it has received 10,140 submissions.

CBA whistle-blower and financial services reform advocate Jeff Morris said the commission's avenues of inquiry had been constrained due to its time limits. "The commissioner has been doing the best he can with the resources he's been given.

"He's figured out the major themes, he's figured out there's a greed factor, there's a fundamental failure of honesty and he's figured out that the regulators are a joke."

ANOTHER ROYAL COMMISSION?

Whatever horrors have been uncovered by the Banking Royal Commission and still remain to see the light of day there is not much doubt that the most important thing that should flow from these proceedings is change. Change so it rarely happens again, change so those responsible for theft, deceit and cover-up go to gaol or worse, have their money taken away from them.

But when the Commission and its primates fade from memory what then?

How do we guarantee that change is guaranteed?

Here's what Alex Mitchell, former economics editor of the Australian Financial Review has suggested;

"It could come from the certainty of another royal commission to review the progress in, say, five years' time. The message would be clear: if the industry is clean, it will be the shortest, least painful royal commission in history, if it is not there will be hell to pay. Unfortunately, it must be a royal commission with coercive powers and carnivorous lawyers. It must hang over the financial sector like the Sword of Damocles, to intimidate the uncommitted and empower the reformers, including those within the sector itself. There are many clever people in the financial institutions who surely would prefer a reformed game, where financial success comes, not from gouging clients, but from out-

smarting and out-innovating their competitors for the benefit of clients. Why should they prefer that? Because that's their comparative advantage. That's the game in which they, and not the spivs, take home the prize. **Australian Financial Review.**

UNBELIEVABLE!

AMP has said it is within its legal rights to charge dead people life insurance premiums, as it hit back against preliminary findings from the Hayne royal commission's hearings into the insurance sector. AMP maintains charging the premiums was not unlawful and did not need to be reported to ASIC as a significant breach.

FORGET INSURING DEATH

One of the gems hidden away in the interim report of the banking Royal Commission was that the funeral insurance business is largely a rort and should be avoided, especially if you live in an aboriginal community. This from the AFR; "Funeral insurers will have to overhaul their products or ditch them altogether after the Hayne royal commission called on the corporate regulator to use its new product intervention powers to shut down junk funeral insurance. The royal commission exposed systemic rorts in the funeral industry, where insurers on average only pay out about one-third of the premiums collected."

GOVERNMENT NOW ATTACKING LIBRARIANS! (The Guardian)

Pressure from the health department [prompted the parliamentary library to remove then amend advice](#) issued in June that contradicted the health minister Greg Hunt's assurances about police access to My Health Records, new correspondence reveals.

Emails [produced under freedom of information](#) reveal that the chief operating officer of the department, Matt Yannopoulos, complained that the advice by the library's director of foreign affairs, defence and security, Nigel Brew, was "misleading and/or inaccurate".

The emails show that the health department was concerned about media reports summarising the advice contributing to a backlash against the [My Health Record](#) and the library at first resisted the complaint before caving to pressure by removing controversial elements.

In an email dated 25 June, the day of [Guardian Australia's report on the library's advice](#), Yannopoulos disputed the conclusion that the My Health Record law:

- "represents a significant reduction in the legal threshold for the release of private medical information to law enforcement"
- does not mandate the Australian Digital [Health](#) Agency only release records with a warrant, despite that being their policy; and
- "seems at odds" with Hunt's public statements that records can only be accessed with a court order.

Jonathan Curtis, the assistant secretary of the library's research branch, defended the advice by responding that the library had concluded after a review that it was "accurate and justifiable".

"Our point ... [is] simply that there is a difference between law and policy as the agency is not required or obligated to take a court order as its standard," Curtis said.

The original advice was [backed by the Queensland Police Union](#), which told its members that no warrant would be required. Both reports contributed to a mounting backlash against the My Health Record, with [the Australian Medical Association vowing to do "whatever it takes"](#) to fix ambiguities around privacy.

By the time the advice was removed, the then-prime minister, Malcolm Turnbull, had promised that concerns raised by the AMA and the Royal Australia College of General Practitioners would be addressed.

On 31 July [Hunt was forced to back down](#), announcing changes to legislation so no record can be released to police or government agencies without a court order.

The parliamentary library has guaranteed funding under a resources agreement, which requires it to provide high-quality analysis while "having regard to the independence of parliament from the executive government of the commonwealth".

CERVICAL CANCER DECLINE (Crikey)

Research from the Cancer Council NSW has found that cervical cancer could officially be considered a rare disease in Australia within the next two years and, in another world first, rendered so uncommon by 2028 that it would no longer be considered a public health problem. [The Sydney Morning Herald](#) reports that, while global deaths from cervical cancer still exceed 310,000 a year, the disease is becoming increasingly uncommon in Australia thanks to the introduction of the national human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination program in 2007, as well as key changes to the country's pap smear program in 1991.

QLD DISABILITY

The Auditor-General's report [Access to the National Disability Insurance Scheme for people with impaired decision-making capacity](#) was tabled in the Queensland Parliament on 27 September 2018.

LIES, LIES, BIG FAT LIES (Crikey)

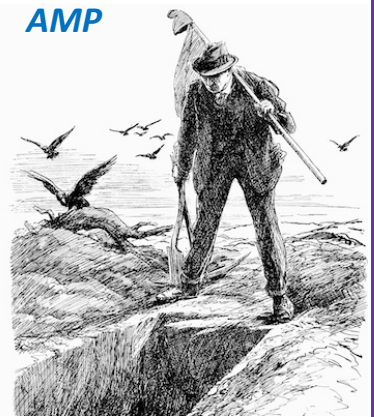
The government's mass surveillance laws, passed in 2015, were, we were told, at the time, "vital to investigate terrorism and organised crime". Mass surveillance laws would only be used for "the most serious crime – to terrorism, to international and transnational organised crime, to paedophilia," then-Attorney-General George Brandis claimed at the time.

Within months of passage, however, the laws were being used for other purposes. The government's own data showed that drug and property offences were the [primary reasons for their use](#). And they were used to pursue whistle-blowers and journalists. In early 2017, an AFP officer illegally accessed the metadata of a journalist to track down a source as part of an investigation of a media story. The AFP has refused to reveal the identity of the journalist, or inform them that their privacy was breached, and the perpetrator suffered no consequences because of the breach.

The AFP also launched raids against the offices of an opposition frontbencher, Labor staff and Parliament House itself in order to track down the whistle-blowers who had revealed embarrassing information about the NBN. The AFP was forced to relinquish the material it seized. The AFP used a loophole in the mass surveillance laws to seize data sent to, not by, journalists in order to identify their sources.

The iron law of mass surveillance is that the laws will be justified with an emotive appeal to the need to stop terrorists and catch paedophiles, but such scum will rarely, if ever, be caught or stopped. Instead, lesser offences in the eternal War on Drugs will be the primary target, and

AMP



the laws — and the bureaucratic and technological infrastructure that supports them — will invariably be used to pursue those who have embarrassed governments. Once the infrastructure is established, why not use it — against NGOs, against whistle-blowers, against journalists, against lawyers, against opposition politicians. Surveillance creep is inevitable.

The government's current war on encryption will be no different. It has justified trying to undermine encryption based on "terrorists' exploitation of the internet"

ABC BOARD "CHARADE" (Crikey)

A former member of the independent nominations panel for the ABC and SBS boards has slammed the Coalition for "abusing" the system, stacking the boards with unqualified members, and repeatedly ignoring panel advice.

In interviews with both [The Sydney Morning Herald](#) and [The Australian \(S\)](#), former deputy Liberal leader and communications minister Neil Brown QC argues that the nomination has become a "charade" under the Coalition and, during his time on the advisory panel before leaving last year, he found that federal –Communications Minister Mitch Fifield ignored and misled board suggestions including over SBS chairman Bulent Hass Della. "What the minister did was take the one who was our last ranked, and said that we recommended him," Brown told [The Australian](#). "That is in my view quite misleading."

AN INSIDE JOB (Christopher Warren –Former MEAA boss)

With last week's spectacular departure of Justin Milne and Michelle Guthrie, the previously unknown ABC board is now the all-but exclusive creation of one man — the Institute of Public Affairs-aligned Senator Mitch Fifield.

The entire board has turned over since he became minister in 2015, giving his appointees the numbers on the board until after the 2022 federal election.

His appointees have been largely hand-picked from that professional cadre of business executives, by-passing the merit-based appointment panel process set up by the former Labor government. With the removal of the Turnbull friend Justin Milne, it's Fifield's board.

The board has ended up with more authority and power in the ABC wars than ever before — and at the worst possible time for the organisation.

This board of ministerial mates, most with no knowledge of the media will be guiding the ABC through the minefield laid by this minister: the budget cuts, the Tonagh "efficiency" review, the government's "competitive neutrality" review and, now, the departmental review into political interference.

DISINTEREST

Did you know that the Cairns office of the Qld LNP is no longer manned?

GREG INGLIS

Two days after being announced as the new Australian Kangaroo's captain, Greg Inglis was stopped outside Dubbo on his way home in Sydney for speeding and found to be over the alcohol limit. It seems Inglis had a drink the night before and unbeknown to him was still over .05 at 2pm the next day. He was stood done and lost the captaincy plus match payments in the vicinity of \$20,000 dollars. Another disgrace for the NRL? Well once again Anthony Albanese steps in with just the right message; "This is a bloke who drove to Dubbo and back to help young Indigenous people. There were 30,000 people at the Aboriginal Knockout Carnival. He paid for the footy jumpers and the gear and stuff for all the kids for that local team. He gave up his own time. He was filmed cleaning up at the ground after the game. He is a very humble bloke and he has my respect. He has made a mistake and has paid a heavy price for it."



CHILDCARE EDUCATION

LABOR WILL EXTEND PRESCHOOL ACCESS TO 3 YEAR OLDS – Shorten/Rishworth

A Shorten Labor Government will introduce a new two year National Preschool and Kindy Program, guaranteeing around 700,000 Australian children a year will be able to access subsidised preschool. This is the biggest ever investment in early childhood education in Australia



For the first time, every three year old in Australia will be able to access 15 hours of subsidised early childhood education, so they can get the best start to learning.

Labor will also extend the current arrangement for four year olds accessing preschool – creating a quality, two-year program to support the most important years of a child's development, an investment of an additional \$1.75 billion into early education.

90% of a child's brain development occurs in the first five years of life - an investment in early education is one of the smartest investments our country can make.

Labor's plan is good for children, good for parents, and good for the economy:

- **Children** - Studies have shown that children who access quality early education achieve better results in tests throughout their schooling. Early education is particularly vital in closing the disadvantage gap before a child starts school. Labor's plan will see around 340,000 three year olds and a similar number of four year olds able to access preschool every year.
- **Parents** – One of the biggest barriers to accessing early education is finance – expanding access will help with the cost of living, help parents balance work and family and help reduce the child care bill for families with children already in early education.
- **Economy** – evidence shows that the return on investment in early childhood education is significant. A recent study from the EU showed that for every dollar spent on early childhood education for 3 year olds, \$4 was returned to the economy.

Labor's universal access to preschool scheme for four year olds has laid the groundwork for this announcement – since the first agreement was signed by Labor in 2008, preschool enrolment for four year olds has increased from 77% to between 93-97%.

But more needs to be done. Our global competitors have recognised the value of a two-year early childhood education program, and it's time Australia gets on board, before we fall further behind.

The United Kingdom, New Zealand, France, Ireland and China have all expanded their early childhood education programs to include three year olds.

Currently, Scott Morrison has failed to extend preschool funding for four year olds beyond next school year – after his child care changes cut early education from some of Australia's most vulnerable children.

The Liberals see education as a cost – that's why they've cut \$14 billion from public schools and left preschool funding in limbo. Labor sees it as an investment in our collective future.

Labor will work in partnership with the states and territories to deliver this important reform, including in setting enrolment and attendance targets, particularly for Indigenous and vulnerable children. We've made tough and overdue decisions to rein in unfair tax concessions that predominantly benefit the wealthy – including negative gearing reform and dividend imputation reform – so we can fund the priorities that will make a fairer and more successful nation. Only Labor will give every child the early education opportunities they need for the best start in life.

More information is available at - http://www.alp.org.au/preschools_and_kindy_program_fact_sheet.

FEE-FREE QUALIFICATIONS FOR 10,000 EARLY EDUCATORS – Shorten/Rishworth/Cameron

A Shorten Labor Government will scrap upfront fees for 10,000 early education students studying at TAFE – boosting our early education workforce.

Friday's announcement is part of Labor's plan for a National Preschool and Kindy Program, giving every child in Australia access two years of quality childhood education.

The early education and care workforce is incredibly vital to Australia's future.

With 90% of a child's brain development occurring in the first five years of a child's life, our early educators have a critical role in supporting our children's growth.

The demand for early childhood education workers is significant: almost 300,000 more children will need an early education and care place in 2019-20 than in 2016-17.

In this year's budget reply, Labor announced that we would waive upfront fees for 100,000 students to attend TAFE.

As part of Labor's commitment to early education, we will allocate 10,000 of these places to early education courses.

We will also ensure that at least 200 of these places go to indigenous students seeking qualifications in early childhood education.

Supporting the workforce will be a key plank of Labor's plan to give our kids the best start possible before they reach school.

Labor will ensure every three year old in Australia will be able to access 15 hours of subsidised early childhood education, so they can get the best start to learning.

Labor will also extend the current arrangement for four year olds accessing preschool – creating a quality, two-year program to support the most important years of a child's development, an investment of an additional \$9.8 billion over the decade.

These 10,000 TAFE places will be supported by Labor's plan to uncap university places – which will see 200,000 more Australians get a university education.

Labor's plan to uncap university places will ensure there are no barriers for students wishing to study to become bachelor qualified early childhood teachers - delivering the national preschool and kindy program to 3 and 4 year olds.

Australia's future will rely on training the next generation in the skills our communities need.

We've made sensible, overdue reforms so that we can invest in things like education and training – so that we can hand on a better deal for the next generation.

Only Labor understands the importance of early education – because we're committed to giving Australian kids a fair go and a brighter future

KINDERGARTEN CUTS LEAVE 347,000 CHILDREN WORSE OFF – Shorten/Rishworth
347,000 Australian children are facing a \$440 million cut to preschool funding as a result of Scott Morrison's cuts to preschool, with the program only funded for one more school year.

Unless this cut is reversed, **every child now under the age of two will miss out on preschool funding in the year before school.** This would be a disaster for Australian children and for our economy.

Scott Morrison's cuts amount to the equivalent of \$1,200 per child every year – a cut that will leave parents out of pocket or force states and community kindies to cut back hours.

In 2009, Federal Labor introduced Universal Access to Preschool for all four year olds, so Australian children could access 15 hours per week of quality preschool education in the year before school.

This was in recognition of the importance of early education – 90% of a child’s brain development occurs before they are five, and children who access preschool have been shown to achieve better school results in later years.

Unfortunately the Liberals continue to treat early education as a political football – leaving parents with uncertainty about whether they will be left out of pocket or whether their child will miss out. Since the first agreement was signed by Labor in 2008, preschool enrolment has increased from 77% to up to 97% in some states.

However, this is all in jeopardy if Morrison doesn’t reverse his cuts and extend funding for preschool in his next Budget update – less than two months away. When a student starts behind, they are unlikely to catch up – it’s likely they will not meet minimum NAPLAN standards in Years 3, 5 and 7.

For a country like Australia, this is just not good enough. By refusing to commit to ongoing funding for preschool, Mr Morrison is putting our children’s futures at risk. He is also making it extremely difficult for providers to plan ahead and build a solid workforce.

This funding cut comes on the back of Morrison’s \$14 billion cuts to public schools, his cuts to Universities and cuts to TAFE. These cuts show he just doesn’t understand the importance of education. He’s spent years arguing for a tax cut for the banks, but Morrison is happy to leave funding for our youngest minds in jeopardy.

Labor will fight for early education and we will fight for better schools because unlike the Liberals, we know that education is an investment in a better future for our kids and our nation’s economy.

STATE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	FUNDING CUT PER YEAR
NSW	102,000	\$128 million
VIC	98,000	\$123 million
QLD	68,000	\$88 million
SA	22,000	\$28 million
WA	37,000	\$47 million
TAS	7,000	\$9 million
NT	3,800	\$4.8 million
ACT	7,000	\$9 million
TOTAL	347,000	\$440 MILLION

ENVIRONMENT

THE LIBERALS CAN’T HIDE THEIR CLIMATE FAILURES FOREVER - Wong

The Morrison Government has been caught out being deliberately deceitful on damning figures highlighting its failure on carbon pollution. The deception has been laid bare by a Freedom of Information request made by the Australian Conservation Foundation.



The FOI reveals the government knew Australia’s carbon pollution was continuing to rise seven weeks before it tried to bury the figures by releasing them just after the interim report of the Banking Royal Commission, on the Friday night before football finals weekend.

It is no wonder the Liberals are keen to avoid any scrutiny of their climate change record, with the latest data showing that carbon pollution rose by **1.3 per cent** in the last year to March 2018.

The Government’s own pollution projections also show emissions will keep rising all the way to 2030, exposing the PM’s repeated claims that the Liberals don’t need a climate policy because Australia will meet our Paris climate targets **“in a canter”** as a lie.

The Prime Minister’s lie has been further exposed overnight with the

Chief Executive of the European Climate Foundation, Laurence Tubiana declaring:

“the consensus in the scientific community is that Australia is not currently on track to reduce emissions and meet its Paris Agreement commitments”.

Like Labor, Ms Tubiana points to the dangers and missed opportunities of failure to implement meaningful climate policy, saying such a failure will have:

“profound consequences on the country’s standing in the international community and its future prospects in terms of innovation and economic opportunity.”

All governments across the world, including our own, are confronted with the grave responsibility to do everything they can to ensure that economies successfully transition to clean energy, and that our children, grandchildren and generations beyond are able to live in a safe climate.

The latest attempt by the Liberal Government to sweep their failure to address climate change under the rug only confirms the Liberal Party has completely shirked that responsibility.

ECONOMY

LABOR LAUNCHES BANK VICTIM PORTAL – O’Neil

This week Opposition Leader Bill Shorten announced that Labor will travel to cities and towns around Australia that have not been visited by the Royal Commission to hold a series of roundtables with victims. Misconduct in the financial services sector is a national issue – and we believe Australians across the country deserve their chance to be heard.

Since the announcement, we have been inundated with banking victims across the country wanting to have their say at one of our roundtables.

In light of this response, we have set up a portal for anyone interested in attending any of Labor’s banking roundtables: <https://www.alp.org.au/banksrc>. Through the portal, bank victims can register their interest in a roundtable, and let us know about their experience of misconduct and what they believe should change in the financial services sector.

Labor is running this process because Scott Morrison doesn’t want to hear from bank victims. He always has been, and always will be, on the side of the big banks.

He spent 600 days fighting against the Royal Commission, labelling it a ‘populist whinge’ and a ‘reckless distraction’. He voted against the Royal Commission 26 times. And he spent years trying to reward the big banks with a \$17 billion tax cut. Now, he’s refusing to extend the Royal Commission – all but guaranteeing victims won’t get a say in responding to the Commission’s recommendations for reform.

Unlike the Liberals, Labor will listen to victims. Misconduct in the financial services sector is a national issue – and we believe Australians across the country deserve their chance to be heard.

Labor called for this Royal Commission, Labor fought for this Royal Commission, Labor will allow victims to have their say, and Labor will work day and night to protect Australian businesses and consumers from this appalling misconduct.

BRAVO: FRYDENBERG’S UNITES ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES AGAINST HIM -Bowen

It’s a particularly special day when Josh Frydenberg offers an additional \$9 billion in GST top payments and still manages to get every state and territory Treasurer united against him, but that’s exactly what happened.

Scott Morrison promised as Treasurer in early July that no state would be worse off under the GST distribution changes, but he’s been called out this week for the Government’s legislation failing to match this guarantee. This is what some of the State Treasurers said today about Josh Frydenberg’s attempt to get their support for Commonwealth legislation without a guarantee that no state would be worse off:

From NSW Liberal Treasurer, Dominic Perrottet: *“What I don’t accept is change in the GST model which will make states worse off. We believe this legislation will do just that. That’s why every treasurer from every state and territory across the country today (is) united in our view that if this legislation is to be passed, there needs to be an amendment to ensure in law that no state or territory will be worse off as a result of this change.”*

From South Australian Liberal Treasurer, Rob Lucas: *“South Australia’s position is that we will not support the Commonwealth’s legislation, the Commonwealth Parliament, unless there is an amendment to put the guarantee in place.”*

From Tasmanian Liberal Treasurer, Peter Gutwein: *“We want the guarantee that was promised...”*

“We believe that it is very important that a guarantee be put in place, and legislated, to ensure that under any circumstance, the state would be no worse off. I think it is pleasing that as a group of treasurers that we are all in agreement on that particular point, including WA.”

From Victorian Labor Treasurer, Tim Pallas: *“So all states and territories, and can I reinforce that — all states and territories — have agreed to the principle that we need these guarantees incorporated into legislation. We stand united on this issue, and our intention is to continue the process of lobbying to ensure the guarantee that the Prime Minister was more than happy to absolutely give — those are his word, that absolutely nobody would be worse off — that those words are enshrined in legislation. That’s the sort of absolute surety that we need in order to manage our budgets. The alternative could be financially catastrophic and I don’t believe that the citizens of any state, or, should I say, the people who depend upon proper budget management, would see this as a fair or appropriate thing without the guarantees that have already been given being given real teeth.”*

From QLD Labor Treasurer, Jackie Trad:

“That is that we need to put in law the commitment made by the former Treasurer, now the Prime Minister, that no state will be disadvantaged because of the changes in the GST distribution methodology. Work has been undertaken by other jurisdictions and I do want to thank the Victorian Treasurer and the Victorian treasury for the work that they’ve done around modelling various scenarios.

“There is a real risk, a very real risk that if the changes that are articulated in legislation from the Commonwealth government are brought into existence without a guarantee, then some jurisdictions will be worse off under certain conditions. We cannot prepare or forecast or model every single scenario, which in order to look at the promise given by Scott Morrison, that absolutely no jurisdiction would be worse off, we are seeking an amendment to the legislation that makes that commitment law, and every single jurisdiction is at one on this issue.”

LABOR’S PLAN TO IMPROVE CEO PAY TRANSPARENCY - Leigh

A Shorten Labor Government would promote fairness and tackle inequality in the workplace by requiring all listed firms with more than 250 employees to report the ratio of their CEO pay to the pay of the median employee.

The call for CEO pay transparency follows a [report](#) which found that the average total pay of ASX100 CEOs rose by 9 per cent last year - four times the speed of average wage growth. The median ASX100 CEO earned more than \$4 million .



The best-paid Australian CEOs, Domino's Don Meij, made \$37 million last year. This was after a year in which the Fair Work Ombudsman publicly complained that Domino's had [failed to comply](#) with requests to provide information into claims that Domino's franchisees were paying workers as little as \$10 an hour. Mr Meij made \$10 every eight seconds.

This policy addresses public concern that CEO salaries are growing at an unfair rate and leaving workers behind. By extending current market reporting requirements for public companies, it will help inform investors as they calculate risks and decide where to invest their money.

This is a pro-growth reform and complements other transparency initiatives announced by Labor, including the public release of gender pay gaps within firms, our Tax Haven Transparency package, and the annual release of tax data for more large private firms.

The requirement for firms to report the ratio of CEO pay to median worker pay parallels measures introduced in the United States and Britain, with the latter championed by Conservative Prime Minister Teresa May.

Alongside their pay ratio, firms would be encouraged to provide a public explanation of the remuneration strategy.

The measure would apply from the 2021 financial year, to allow the Australian Securities and Investments Commission time to issue appropriate guidance, and for firms to comply with the new requirements.

Tackling inequality requires measures across the board, including in the boardroom.

THIRD PARTY SUPPORT :

"I would love to also see transparency inside industries, an annual ranking on what the pay rates are. Transparency is absolutely fantastic because it just tells the facts to shareholders, and then management and organisations are held accountability to facts." - **Domino's Pizza CEO Don Meij, whose realised pay last year was \$37 million.**

"ASA welcomes the ALP's policy announcement to adopt a variant of US and UK measures to require larger publicly listed firms to publicly release (as part of their annual reporting requirements) the ratio of CEO pay to median employee pay." - **The Australian Shareholders' Association.**

"We welcome the ALP's announcement on CEO pay ratio disclosure, which is underpinned by the ASCI's CEO Pay Report. More effective disclosure will give investors greater insight into how remuneration is set in an organisational context." - **Australian Council of Superannuation Investors.**

"We need systemic change to put power back in the hands of working people. While we welcome efforts to improve transparency, we need to ensure that working people can use the information that transparency brings to organise and bargain for better wages and conditions." - **ACTU Secretary Sally McManus.**

SLOMO THE CHAMELEON CHANGES POSITION, AGAIN, ON GST - Bowen

Scott Morrison has spent months arguing that legislating a GST floor was unnecessary, in July he said "there was no need" to legislate the GST deal, but today apparently there is a need.

This is a big back down for Scott Morrison but a big win for Western Australia and the nation.

However, Labor is deeply concerned that the Government's proposed legislation fails to explicitly guarantee that no state will worse off. As we review the legislation, we will be seeking answers about why this guarantee has been excluded.

Bill Shorten has consistently argued for the deal to be legislated and Federal Labor has been leading on the GST distribution debate for years. **Unfortunately, Scott Morrison today couldn't resist playing politics, declaring he'd sent draft legislation to the Leader of the Opposition despite having not done so at the time.**

Labor first put forward the Fair Share for WA Fund which made the Liberal Party take the WA concerns about the unfair GST share they were receiving seriously.

Labor has forced the Liberal Party to put more money on the table to establish a floor of 75c on the dollar.

There should be a proper framework put in place for any changes to the GST distribution and for future Commonwealth top-up payments, because the Australian people simply don't trust the Liberal Party and its record of cuts to schools, hospitals and in unilaterally ripping up intergovernmental agreements.

FRYDENBERG LEAVES US NONE THE WISER ON LIBERALS' BUDGET RULES- Bowen

Hats off to ABC News Breakfast Hamish Macdonald who this morning tried at least eight times to get a simple answer from the new Treasurer on how he'd pay for new spending.

The last week or so has been a complete debacle when it comes to the new Prime Minister, Treasurer and Finance Minister constantly contradicting each other over the Government's fiscal rules. The Prime Minister boldly declared the rules were meaningless because there were

"exceptions to the rules".

This is what happens when you have a Liberal Party divided over and without fiscal rules and a new Treasurer clearly caught out with no explanation how he's meant to explain not offsetting billions of dollars in proposed new spending and tax cuts.

HAMISH MACDONALD, PRESENTER: *You're allocating a lot more money. Billions more. Where does the money coming from?*

FRYDENBERG: *It comes from the Government's budget and we have made an allocation for this increased money, not just for Western Australia but for all of states and territories. All states and territories will be better off as a result of these reforms.*

We've listened to the Productivity Commission, we have recognised that the



way the GST formula is based is not sustainable in the long term because you had people in Western Australia, Hamish, who were getting 30 cents in the dollar in the GST.

MACDONALD: But it's by far the biggest jump for WA.

FRYDENBERG: It is.

MACDONALD: Compared to the rest of the states and territories.

FRYDENBERG: Because they have been the hardest done by.

MACDONALD: \$9 billion is that the amount that you have to set aside? Where does that actually come from? Where do you cut it from?

FRYDENBERG: We are obviously ensuring that **we have fiscal discipline**, and as you know, the Australian economy is growing at the fastest rate since the height of the mining boom in 2012...

MACDONALD: So the money has to come from somewhere. Can't you give us a simple explanation of where you're getting \$9 billion from?

FRYDENBERG: **There has been improvements on both the receipt side and the payments.** Receipts because more people are in jobs creating over 1,000 jobs a day. But also, less payments, particularly in the welfare space as more people find jobs and don't need the additional income support.

MACDONALD: So nothing is being cut from anywhere? Just better receipts?

FRYDENBERG: **We have budget rules** which we're sticking to...

MACDONALD: So where do the cuts come from? Let's be honest about this?

FRYDENBERG: Hamish, let's be honest. **The Australian economy is growing and we've seen improvements on receipts side, but we've also seen lower payments.** The last time that the Labor Party delivered a budget surplus, the Berlin Wall was still standing.

MACDONALD: Can you just be clear, though, will anything be cut to fund these changes to the GST?

FRYDENBERG: **We will run the economy in a fiscally disciplined way.** There will be savings...

MACDONALD: So there will be cuts?

FRYDENBERG: **There will be savings where it is appropriate to do so.**

MACDONALD: What will they be?

FRYDENBERG: You'd love me to reveal on TV today the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook but you'll have to wait until December for that.

SENIORS

MORRISON SPENDS MILLIONS DECEIVING OLDER AUSTRALIANS - Collins

Scott Morrison approved a multimillion-dollar taxpayer funded advertising campaign encouraging older Australians to access home care packages even as the Government knew waiting times for care were blowing out.



The \$8.2 million campaign was the single biggest advertising spend in the 2018 Budget and was spent entirely in the 2017-18 financial year.

The campaign spruiked the Liberal Government's woefully inadequate Budget for older Australians and encouraged them to access home care packages.

The [latest data](#) on the number of older Australians waiting for a home care package, which corresponds with the timing of the campaign, shows the list blew out from 108,000 to 121,000.

The Abbott/Turnbull/Morrison Government has misled vulnerable older Australians and given them false hope about accessing care at home even as the waitlist for packages ballooned.

What's worse – it wasted millions of taxpayer dollars on this expensive exercise. The Government must be honest with older Australians instead of trying to deceive them with taxpayer funded advertising.

The Government's Budget commitment of 14,000 new home care packages over four years has shown to be woefully inadequate as Labor predicted - the list grew by almost 13,000 older Australians in just three months this year. [latest data on home care packages](#)

The blow out in the number of older Australians waiting for care means some are waiting for more than two years for the home care package they have been approved for. Older Australians are entering residential aged care or even emergency departments rather than being able to stay at home and receive their approved home care package.

The Government cannot use the Royal Commission as an excuse to delay action on fixing this crisis now.

Scott Morrison and the Liberals must do better to ensure older Australians get the quality aged care services they need.

MEDIA

LIBERAL CALLS TO KILL OFF SBS - Rowland

How typical of the Liberals to exploit their own alleged political interference at the ABC as cover to destroy the SBS.

Following [Scott Morrison's ABC/SBS merger thought bubble](#) earlier this week, prominent Tory Jeff Kennett is out there today softening the ground in an [opinion piece about how he thinks the ABC can be "fixed"](#).

Let's get this straight: after slashing ABC funding by \$366 million in breach of an explicit pre-election promise not to, after 800 staff have been shown the door, after a drop in ABC content and services including shortwave radio in the bush, and after subjecting the ABC to a relentless series of Bills, inquiries and complaints over the past 5 years, the Liberals now propose to "fix" the ABC by destroying the SBS.

Seriously.

Scott Morrison and the Liberals have proven they simply do not support public broadcasting in Australia. The Liberals have already tried to turn the SBS into a commercial broadcaster by stealth, with their [failed attempts to push for more advertising on SBS during prime time](#). Scott Morrison likes to talk about Australia being the most successful multicultural nation in the world but he is deeply ignorant when it comes to the critical role the SBS has played, and continues to play, in that success.

The ABC and SBS are two distinct media organisations, established for different purposes and operating under different models. Labor rules out a merger of the ABC and SBS. Scott Morrison must do the same.

If Scott Morrison really wants to “fix” the ABC, he could start by actually following the independent merits-based and arms-length board appointments process in the ABC Act, which his unscrupulous Minister has failed to do.

POLITICISATION OF ABC POISONS OUR POLITY - Rowland

Recent reports of political interference at the ABC have caught the Liberals red-handed, and thrown their record on the politicisation of ABC Board appointments into sharp relief.

In addition to financial and ideological attacks on the ABC, the Liberals have shown flagrant disregard for the principle that ABC Board nominations and appointments be merit-based and arms-length from government.

Labor instituted the Nomination Panel process to safeguard the independence and integrity of the ABC, and its governance, yet the Liberals have shamelessly ignored panel recommendations to politicise the public broadcaster.

Under Labor questioning at Senate Estimates the Minister for Communications, Senator Mitch Fifield, confirmed that it was his idea to appoint Minerals Council Chair Dr Vanessa Guthrie despite the fact she had not been nominated by the Panel:

Senator DASTYARI: Was it your idea to appoint Dr Vanessa Guthrie or was it the Prime Minister's?

Senator Fifield: It was mine. It was my recommendation to the internal processes of government.

Senator DASTYARI: Are you aware of the independent nomination panel process being ignored before?

Senator Fifield: Yes, I am. Sorry, I will not say 'ignored'. The panel process is never ignored. It is a legislative requirement that panel process be gone through. Recommendations are made and then it is up to the government to accept some of those recommendations. *Senate Estimates, 28 February 2017.*

In contrast, former Labor Communications Minister, Senator Stephen Conroy, who introduced the Nomination Panel process, did not know any of the people appointed to the ABC Board while he was Minister.

Labor will consider proposals to strengthen this process and safeguard against further attempts at politicisation. Labor knows that Australians expect their elected representatives to work together in a bipartisan way to restore good governance and trust at the ABC.

That is why Labor Leader Bill Shorten has written to Scott Morrison requesting to meet and discuss proposals for reform, and to affirm that Labor expects to be genuinely consulted on all future ABC Board appointments, including the new ABC Chair.

Further, ABC Alumni have called for a thorough bi-partisan parliamentary inquiry before any new appointments are made to the Board, to assess how well the current appointment system is working and whether changes are required.

Minister Fifield has shown he can't be trusted to respect the spirit of the law in the ABC Act or follow the Nomination Panel process. It is clear he will stop at nothing to damage the ABC with budget cuts and meddlesome Bills, inquiries and complaints.

Labor has no confidence in this conflicted Minister and Morrison must move him out of the Communications portfolio without delay.



LABOR TO SUPERCHARGE BATTERY METAL MANUFACTURING – Carr/Clare/Madeleine King

A Shorten Labor Government will supercharge Australia's battery metal manufacturing industry to support Australian manufacturing jobs and our drive to a clean energy future.

Australia is the world's biggest supplier of lithium and we produce every metal needed to make a lithium battery in Australia.

But we still send most of our battery metals overseas without local manufacturing getting much of the action.

Because of the need to develop capacity to store renewable energy, along with the growth in electric cars, and smart devices the Association of Mining and Exploring Companies estimates that the global Lithium value chain will grow from \$160 billion in 2018 to \$2 trillion in 2025^[1].

Australia should have a bigger slice of that pie.

There's no reason why Australian manufacturing workers can't refine more of our battery metals and also make batteries here.

We can be a country that makes more things.



At the moment there are a few companies investing around Australia to refine battery metals and establish battery manufacturing facilities.

This includes investments like BHP's nickel refinery and Tianqi's Lithium processing plant in Kwinana. As well as the Sonnen battery plant in Adelaide and Energy Renaissance's battery plant planned for Darwin.

We want to support them to take the next step move further down the supply chain.

State and territory Governments like Western Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory are developing their own battery metal manufacturing strategies.

Federal Labor will partner with these states and territories to support further growth in battery metal processing and battery manufacture. Labor will supercharge Australia's battery metal manufacturing industry by getting Austrade to develop a Manufacturing, Export and Investment Strategy - starting with a review of the future of battery metal extraction and advanced processing.

Labor will also make research into battery metal processing and battery manufacture a funding priority for the Australian Research Council (ARC).

This will be further supported by Labor's \$1 billion Australian Manufacturing Future Fund and the \$5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility as well as the new Australian Investment Guarantee.

This implements recommendation 15 from the Federal Government's Resources 2030 Taskforce report into Australia's resources industry.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FUTUREASIA – DEEPER TIES WITH INDIA - Bowen/Wong/Clare

Labor today released the next part of our FutureAsia plan – to deepen engagement with India, boost trade and create more jobs for Australians. India is currently Australia's fifth largest trading partner.

Over the next two decades India will become the world's third largest economy with a population of almost 1.7 billion people. This is a huge market. It presents a massive opportunity for Australian businesses, workers and farmers.

We want to sell more of what we make in Australia to India to create more local jobs.

In order to capitalise on this opportunity we must improve the way we engage with India to better understand how its economy operates and what it needs. If we don't move quickly, Australia is at risk of losing out to other countries that have already recognised the opportunity.

That's why a Shorten Labor Government will:

- Support-in-principle the **10 priority recommendations of Peter Varghese's Indian Economic Strategy**
- Hold **Annual Australia Week in India** trade missions, focussing on the 10 sectors and 10 states identified in Varghese's Indian Economic Strategy. At the moment, trade missions to India are held only every two years.
- Work with the Indian Government to establish a reciprocal **internship program** to allow recent Australian graduates to help build the Asian business capability of young Australian professionals.

The Liberals received the Varghese Report in July. Since then, they have been too focussed on themselves and their internal divisions to implement it.

This report is too important to sit in the Trade Minister's top drawer gathering dust. Shadow Minister for Trade and Investment Jason Clare will visit India next week to discuss these plans and meet with Indian Government officials and business leaders. This builds on other initiatives Labor will undertake to deepen our ties with our region to boost jobs and make Australia more secure.

These include:

- Restoration of \$1.5 million in funding cut from the Asian Education Foundation
- Allocating \$3 million to boost the Asian capability of Australian boards, working with the Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Establishing the Australian-ASEAN Studies Centre
- Establishing an Asian Diaspora program
- Seek an agreement to establish an internship program with China
- Make Australia Week in China an annual event
- Set up a team to tackle non-tariff barriers to trade
- Hold meetings of Asia-Pacific Finance Ministers in advance of the G20 Finance Ministers meeting
- Holding an annual 2 +2 of Australia's and Indonesia's Finance and Trade Ministers
- Report annually to the Parliament on progress in implementing FutureAsia.

THE FARM

GOVERNMENT MUST ADMIT APVMA RELOCATION IS UTTER FAILURE-Fitzgibbon

Agriculture Minister David Littleproud must explain why the Australian Pesticides and Veterinarian Medicines Authority (APVMA) is recruiting staff in Canberra which is in direct defiance of the Government Policy Order.

The Authority is currently [publicly advertising](#) to fill an Executive Director position based in Canberra.

The Turnbull Government created the [current policy order in 2016](#) to enable the blatant pork barrel which involved uprooting the APVMA and its highly trained and qualified staff from Canberra to Armidale in Barnaby Joyce's electorate. The policy order criteria specifically prohibits its operation in Canberra.

In Senate Estimates in October 2017, APVMA CEO Dr Parker confirmed, when questioned by **Senator Gallagher**, that maintaining an office presence in Canberra of any sort "would be against the government order" and that there was no intention of doing so.

The forced relocation of the APVMA [defied a cost benefit analysis](#), has been a shocking waste of taxpayers' money and has undermined the capacity and capability of the Authority to assess the safety and effectiveness of crop protection and animal health products in a timely manner - vital work our farmers and other key stakeholders need.

While Malcolm Turnbull ignorantly gave his full support for the damaging APVMA relocation, his replacement Scott Morrison must now put a stop to the madness and admit the move has been an utter failure.

MORRISON GOVERNMENT MUST TALK WITH WA SHEEP FARMERS - Fitzgibbon

The 111th annual Pastoralists and Graziers Association of Western Australia's convention has been told Federal Agricultural Minister David Littleproud has to [improve communication](#) with sheep meat producers.

The live sheep export industry has been in limbo now for four months as the Morrison Government tries to be all things to all people. As a result, sheep farmers are suffering. Agriculture Minister David Littleproud must release [the Moss Review into live exports](#) now. The report into the culture, capability and investigative powers of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources was due on the 24th August, but it remains under wraps and its delay is being used as an excuse to do nothing.

The Government has not held any meaningful discussions with farmers about transition options and assistance.

Minister Littleproud even confirmed in [media comments](#) that he agreed a transition for live export sheep meat producers to a sector based here in Australia is possible.

The Government feigned shock and horror when the Awassi Express [failings](#) were exposed and claimed it would be guided by the science, but has since shown little urgency in finding solutions.

The fact is, the science is in and, based on that evidence, the live sheep export trade cannot continue. The focus must be on an immediate ban on the Northern Hemisphere summer trade and a transition away from live sheep exports to maximise value-adding opportunities and jobs here in Australia.

Labor believes the live sheep export trade does not meet community expectations on animal welfare. The Government must stand up and provide transparency and give assurance it has an orderly plan to transition sheep farmers and other supply chain participants out of the live sheep trade.

WOMEN

GST ON TAMPONS - Shorten/Plibersek/Bowen/King

We welcome the unanimous decision today by the Council on Federal Financial Relations to scrap the unfair and discriminatory "tampon tax". Labor has led the debate on removing this tax and today vindicates the work Labor has done pressing for this important reform. Back in April we announced we'd scrap this unfair tax on women.

At the time, Mr Morrison described it as a "cynical exercise". At the April Council on Federal Financial Relations meeting earlier this year, Mr Morrison said this issue didn't come up because "we're dealing with things that are much higher level". And in the Parliament, the Liberals and Nationals blocked the progress of a Private Members Bill that would have scrapped the "tampon tax".

Australian women spend around \$300 million on sanitary products – tampons and pads – each year.

Currently, every single one of these products is hit with the 10 per cent GST – around \$30 million a year in tax – because they are not considered necessities. The tax shouldn't have been applied in the first place – there is no question that sanitary products aren't a luxury item. They are necessities.

THE LAW

LAW REFORM COMMISSION PAPER SHOWS NEED TO WAIT – Wong (Acting Shadow A/G)

This week's release of the Australian Law Reform Commission's Discussion Paper on its inquiry into the family law system is further proof that the government should slow down its family court amalgamation.

The ALRC's discussion paper, which is more than 350 pages long, makes more than 100 recommendations for change to the family law system.



Many of these proposals are for change to the Family Law Act.

Proposals include another look at family dispute resolution, greater use of a triage process for families conducted by registrars, and a simplified court process for matters involving small property pools. In addition, a recommendation calls for a 'specialist list' within the court system for high risk family violence matters, with the use of professionals with specialist family violence knowledge.

The government has claimed that the final ALRC report, due on 31 March 2019, will not have any bearing on issues of court structure, and so it is not necessary to hold back its proposed family court amalgamation until after that date so that its findings can be taken into account.

Today's issues paper shows that to be an absolute nonsense.

How is it possible that a new triage system of cases or a simplified court process can be examined without reference to what the court system as a whole would look like? How can a specialist list for family violence matters be created, when the government is proposing the abolition of the family court and the removal of specialist expertise?

It makes absolutely no sense for such wholesale recommendations for reform to be treated separately to questions of structure, and – according to the government's preferred timetable – to be considered just months after a brand new court system has been created. Moreover, the heavy resource implications contained in the ALRC's recommendations should be taken into account at the same time as the family court structure proposals, which have their own costings attached.

It is time for the government to wake up and get real – it should listen to stakeholders, crossbenchers and Labor and stop its mad rush on its family court proposals. To ignore these calls could lead to chaos in a system which surely could not bear it.

WORKERS

COALITION STILL CAN'T GET VET RIGHT - Cameron

The Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government still can't deliver its deeply flawed flagship vocational education and training policy.

Queensland and Victoria, where 45 per cent of the Australian apprentices are located, are yet to sign up to the Government's Skilling Australians Fund.

The failure of the fund to deliver funding certainty has been criticised by experts and stakeholders since it was announced 16 months ago. The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry told a Senate Inquiry in February that the failure to guarantee the fund showed the Government's lack of commitment to the training system.

Education funding expert Professor Peter Noonan, professorial fellow at the Mitchell Institute for Health and Education Policy, echoed ACCI's concerns that the fund design poses a barrier to settling agreements with the state and territory governments:

"Revenue for the fund will be highest when skilled migration is highest, and lowest when employment of locally skilled workers is highest. That means the revenue stream for the fund will be counter-cyclical to the purpose for which it was established: increase the proportion of locally trained workers and to lessen reliance on temporary skilled migration visas. Unless the Commonwealth guarantees funding levels and continues to make up any shortfall in the revenue, it will be difficult, if not impossible, for the Commonwealth to enter meaningful, bilateral agreements with the states through the fund."



Instead the Coalition has made nine different ministerial appointments with responsibility for VET over their five years in office. There are now 140,000 fewer apprentices and trainees in training than when they took office." Senator Cameron said.

"Labor understands that VET, TAFE and apprenticeships are issues of national importance. That is why Labor will guarantee funding for VET, ensuring that at least two thirds will go to TAFE.

The Productivity Commission has reported that 'the VET system is a mess', the Business Council of Australia have called for 'systematic and transformational change', and the OECD is reporting that Australia doesn't have the skills base to capitalise on opportunities in global value chains. In the first 100 days of government Labor will establish a comprehensive review of our post-secondary education system.

A Shorten Labor Government will also:

- guarantee that one in 10 jobs on Commonwealth projects go to an Australian apprentice
- scrap upfront fees for 100,000 TAFE students and spend \$100 million on revitalising TAFE campuses across Australia
- invest in new pre-apprenticeships for 10,000 young job seekers with skills and training, and 20,000 adult apprenticeships for people with insecure employment.

FIRST PEOPLE

GOVT CAN NO LONGER DENY FAILURE OF DISCRIMINATORY CDP– Dodson/McCarthy

The Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government can no longer wilfully deny the failure of the discriminatory Community Development Program.

Countless reports and inquiries have shown that CDP is leaving participants trapped in poverty, unable to feed their families and is causing people to completely fall out of the social services system.

In shocking news reports, the [ABC](#) has uncovered disturbing data on penalties issued under the CDP, revealing the real impact it is having on communities.

In some areas, CDP participants have received up to 15 breaches leaving them with no income for up to eight weeks.

The data reveals that the higher the Indigenous participation rate in the region, the higher the rate of financial penalties issued.

Since the CDP's implementation in 2015, organisations and communities have repeatedly spoken out against the program.

At the most recent Inquiry hearing into [CDP](#) the Senate's Community Affairs Committee was told participants "disengage from income support altogether because reconnecting with payments or dealing with Centrelink may be difficult." This claim is supported by the data released today, showing participant numbers have dropped by 25 per cent or more in nine regions since the CDP began.

Additionally, a report from the ANAO in November last year clearly showed serious administrative flaws and mismanagement of the program. The Labor initiated [2017 Senate Inquiry](#) report called for a total overhaul of the CDP system - including the immediate replacement of the current compliance and penalty system.

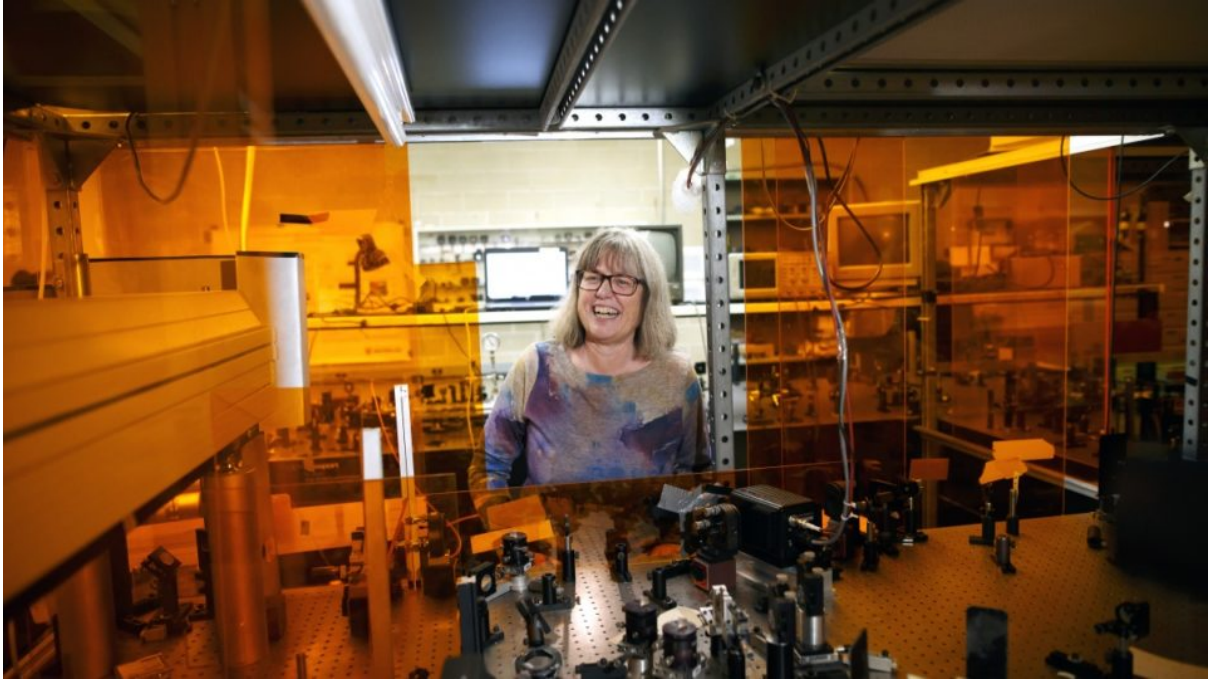
The Federal Government's delusion that this failed program works is astounding. Minister Scullion has repeatedly denied that the CDP is driving up poverty in remote areas. This morning in a statement the Minister for Indigenous Affairs said CDP was a "resounding success".

How much more evidence does the Government need that shows CDP is not working?

The \$275-million-a-year CDP scheme not a success story – it is a failure that has led to more hardship and deeper poverty.

It is time the Government started to listen and act for the people that it says it represents

WOMEN RULE



A Canadian woman has become just the third woman ever to win the Nobel prize for physics – and the first in 55 years.

Donna Strickland, of Canada's University of Waterloo, was one of an international trio who took out the prize for their laser technology breakthroughs that have turned light beams into precision tools for everything from eye surgery to micro-machining. The only other women to have been awarded the physics prize are Marie Curie in 1903 and Maria Goeppert-Mayer in 1963.



Spanish rider **Ana Carrasco** has become the first female rider to win a motorbike world championship, claiming the title by a single point over countryman Mika Perez.

The 21-year-old claimed her title in the World Supersport 300 — a support series for the World Superbike championship. The championship was decided in the most dramatic way possible, coming down to the last lap of the final race of the season at Magny-Cours in France.

Cr Peter Cumming's ANNUAL

WIN PRIZES
WIN PRIZES
WIN PRIZES

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 12
TRIVIA
NIGHT**

**EAT DRINK AND
TEASE YOUR BRAIN**
DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT 6:45
\$20pp tables of 6
BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES - LIGHT SUPPER
ST PETERS' ANGLICAN CHURCH HALL
77 CHARLOTTE ST, WYNNUM
RSVP: KERRY 0409 037 629 BY OCTOBER 8
All Proceeds to Peter Cumming's re-election campaign



You are warmly invited to attend the Arana Hills ALP branch

TRIVIA NIGHT!



• Saturday Night, 13 October 2018

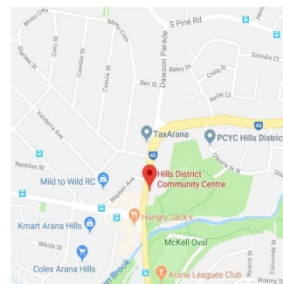
- Hills District Community Centre, Dawson Parade, Arana Hills (see map)
 - Doors open 6pm; **7pm start SHARP**; 9.30pm finish
 - Teams of 6-8 people invited
- 6 rounds of 10 general knowledge questions plus 3 'Who Am I's'
- Great prizes; Pizza and nibbles provided (feel free to BYO food as well); All drinks on sale at the bar; Coffee & tea also complimentary



- **\$20 entry fee** per person or \$15 concession; Pay on the night OR transfer \$\$\$ to:
ALP State of Qld Arana Hills Branch BSB 06 4171 Account no. 009 000 44
Donations also welcome if you can't attend ☺

To RSVP email amcmicking@bigpond.com or geoff96@tpg.com.au

Please provide details of the number in your team and whether you will pay in advance or on the night. For enquiries phone 0475 353 550.



ALL \$\$\$ PROCEEDS TO THE ARANA HILLS ALP
TO HELP US CONTRIBUTE TO
ALI FRANCE AND THE DICKSON ALP CAMPAIGN.



Current Senate Inquiries

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

- [Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Bill 2018 and related Bill](#)
- [My Health Records Amendment \(Strengthening Privacy\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Social Security Legislation Amendment \(Community Development Program\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Social Services Legislation Amendment \(Maintaining Income Thresholds\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Social Services Legislation Amendment \(Encouraging Self-sufficiency for Newly Arrived Migrants\) Bill 2018](#)

Community Affairs References Committee

- [Support for Australia's thalidomide survivors](#)
- [My Health Record system](#)
- [Accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia](#)
- [Effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised](#)

Economics Legislation Committee

- **New** [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Design and Distribution Obligations and Product Intervention Powers\) Bill 2018](#)
- **New** [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Making Sure Foreign Investors Pay Their Fair Share of Tax in Australia and Other Measures\) Bill 2018](#); [Income Tax \(Managed Investment Trust Withholding Tax\) Amendment Bill 2018](#); [Income Tax Rates Amendment \(Sovereign Entities\) Bill 2018](#)

Economics References Committee

- [Financial and tax practices of for-profit aged care providers](#)
- [The Commitment to the Senate issued by the Business Council of Australia](#)
- [Regional Inequality in Australia](#)
- [Consumer protection in the banking, insurance and financial sector](#)
- [Non-conforming building products](#)

Education and Employment Legislation Committee

- [Fair Work Amendment \(Family and Domestic Violence Leave\) Bill 2018](#)

Education and Employment References Committee

- [The appropriateness and effectiveness of the objectives, design, implementation and evaluation of jobactive](#)
- [The exploitation of general and specialist cleaners working in retail chains for contracting or subcontracting cleaning companies](#)
- [The high rates of mental health conditions experienced by first responders, emergency service workers and volunteers](#)
- [The prevention, investigation and prosecution of industrial deaths in Australia](#)

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

- [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Improving the Energy Efficiency of Rental Properties\) Bill 2018](#)

Environment and Communications References Committee

- **New** [Impact of feral deer, pigs and goats in Australia](#)
- [Gaming micro-transactions for chance-based items](#)
- [Australia's faunal extinction crisis](#)
- [Great Barrier Reef 2050 Partnership Program](#)
- [Australian content on broadcast, radio and streaming services](#)
- [Water use by the extractive industry](#)
- [Rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities](#)

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

- [Intelligence Services Amendment \(Enhanced Parliamentary Oversight of Intelligence Agencies\) Bill 2018](#)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

- [Defence Amendment \(Sovereign Naval Shipbuilding\) Bill 2018](#)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

- [Use of the Quinoline anti-malarial drugs Mefloquine and Tafenoquine in the Australian Defence Force](#)
- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\)](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

- **New** [Aviation Transport Security Amendment Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [Freedom of Information Legislation Amendment \(Improving Access and Transparency\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia Bill 2018, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia \(Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Customs Amendment \(Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership Implementation\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\], Customs Tariff Amendment \(Comprehensive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Implementation\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Censorship\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Insult and Offend\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Security\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment \(Strengthening the Commitments for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Judiciary Amendment \(Commonwealth Model Litigant Obligations\) Bill 2017](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

- [The practice of dowry and the incidence of dowry abuse in Australia](#)

Red Tape Committee

- [The effect of red tape on private education](#)
- [policy and process to limit and reduce red tape](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

- [Performance of Airservices Australia](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

- [Regulatory approaches to ensure the safety of pet food](#)
- [The need for regulation of mobility scooters, also known as motorised wheelchairs](#)
- [The operation, regulation and funding of air route service delivery to rural, regional and remote communities](#)
- [The integrity of the water market in the Murray-Darling Basin](#)

Select Committee into the obesity epidemic in Australia

- [Obesity Epidemic in Australia](#)

Select Committee on Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century

- [Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century](#)

Select Committee on Electric Vehicles

- [Electric Vehicles](#)

Select Committee on Stillbirth Research and Education

- [Stillbirth Research and Education](#)