

Watch this space



Tax File Numbers report expected in June

The House of Representatives Economics Committee expects a June release for its report on Australia's Tax File Number System. The Committee has been investigating tax file numbers following an audit report that found major weaknesses in the system. The report will be available from the House Economics Committee's web site at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/efpa following the report's presentation to the House of Representatives. For further information, contact the Committee secretariat, telephone (02) 6277 4587 or email: EFPA.Reps@aph.gov.au

Federal election report card out soon

Australian voters gave their verdict at the Federal election on 3 October 1998. Now it's the turn of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Matters. The Electoral Committee's report card on the conduct of the 1998 Federal election is expected in May. After its presentation to Parliament, the report will be available from the Electoral Committee's web site at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/em. For further information, contact the Committee secretariat, telephone (02) 6277 2374 or email: JSCEM@aph.gov.au

Gene technology findings available end of June

The findings of a 15 month investigation into primary producer access to gene technology are expected to be released publicly by the House of Representatives Primary Industries and Regional Services Committee at the end of June. A particular focus of the inquiry has been the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to access the benefits of gene technology. Once the Primary Industries Committee report is presented to the House of Representatives, it will be available from the Committee's web site at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind. Further information can be obtained from the Committee secretariat, telephone (02) 6277 4500 or email: Primary.Industries.Reps@aph.gov.au

Reserve Bank report out in June

In June the House Economics Committee will report on its review of the Reserve Bank annual report for 1998-99. An interim report was released on 13 March 2000. The next report will follow the May appearance of Reserve Bank Governor Ian Macfarlane before the House Economics Committee.

Public hearings & Public meetings

House Economics Committee to hear from Reserve Bank

The financial community will turn its attention to Melbourne on 22 May when Reserve Bank Governor Ian Macfarlane has his regular six monthly appearance before the House of Representatives Economics Committee. Issues likely to be raised by the House Economics Committee include interest rates, bank fees and household debt. The public hearing will be held from 10am to 1pm on 22 May in the Gardenview/Parkview Rooms, Dallas Brooks Convention and Function Centre, 300 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Further information can be obtained from the House Economics Committee secretariat, telephone (02) 6277 4587 or email: EFPA.Reps@aph.gov.au

United Nations inquiry commences public hearings

On 22 May the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade will hold the first public hearing of its inquiry into Australia's

relations with the United Nations in the post Cold War environment. The hearing will be held in Parliament House, Canberra and will be followed by public hearings on 4 July in Brisbane, 5 July in Sydney, 6 July in Melbourne and 7 July in Adelaide. Further information can be obtained from the Foreign Affairs Committee secretariat, telephone (02) 6277 2313 or email: jscfadt@aph.gov.au

Find out what's been said

Find out what issues have been discussed by reading the transcripts that are prepared for each public hearing. Transcripts are generally available from the Parliament's Internet site shortly after the hearings. Visit the home page of the relevant committee at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee or visit the committees' section of the Hansard home page at www.aph.gov.au/hansard. You can also contact the relevant committee by phone or email to obtain printed copies of the transcript.