

ity Places Program; however, it is industry skills councils as private companies that are administering that funding on behalf of the Commonwealth. That is an allocation that is made outside any open, competitive tender, where all that is available by way of competitive attention is competition by several industry skills councils themselves.

Not wanting to pre-empt the finding of this inquiry, and given the lack of ability of Senate estimates to properly scrutinise the performance of these industry skills councils in the very important area of vocational education and training, we think that it is justified for the Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee to properly scrutinise the role and effectiveness of these industry skills councils, the accountability mechanisms that are in place and, of course, the corporate governance arrangements of ISCs. There are a lot of union officials on these industry skills councils and a lot of public funding accumulated by some of these industry skills councils. I think there is a need for some proper scrutiny to be applied by a Senate committee to ensure that the taxpayer is indeed getting proper value for money from the limited training dollars that are being invested by this government in those industry skills councils.

Senator O'BRIEN (Tasmania) (3.54 pm)—I seek leave to make a very brief statement.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT—Leave is granted for two minutes.

Senator O'BRIEN—The government opposes this motion. We recognise that a majority in the chamber supports the motion and we will not be calling a division.

Question agreed to.

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Extension of Time

Senator O'BRIEN (Tasmania) (3.54 pm)—At the request of the Chair of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Senator Moore, I move:

That the time for the presentation of the report of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee on the Poker Machine (Reduced Losses—Interim Measures) Bill 2009 and the Protecting Problem Gamblers Bill 2009 be extended to 28 October 2010.

Question agreed to.

DOUBLE DISSOLUTION

Senator RONALDSON (Victoria) (3.55 pm)—I move:

That the Senate is of the view that, in the event of a simultaneous dissolution of both Houses under section 57 of the Constitution, the division of senators into two classes for the purposes of rotation should be in accordance with the results of a recount of the Senate vote under section 282 of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* to determine the order of election of senators in each state.

Question agreed to.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Senator BARNETT (Tasmania) (3.55 pm)—I move:

That the Senate—

- (a) welcomes the presence in Parliament House of more than 300 participants in the Micah Challenge Voices for Justice event, representing churches, schools and community groups in more than 80 electorates and from every state and territory;
- (b) notes:
 - (i) the vital progress being made towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which aim to halve world poverty by 2015, seen through the reduction in child deaths from 12.5 million annually in 1990 to 8.8 million in 2008,
 - (ii) that while progress is being made, a number of the MDGs are still off track, particularly Goals 4 and 5, which relate to child and maternal health, and
 - (iii) the growing public support in the Australian community for the MDGs, demonstrated by more than 111 000 people who have signed the Micah call in support of the MDGs as part of the Micah Challenge campaign and an additional 40 000 people who recently signed the 'Act to End Poverty' with the Make Poverty History campaign;
- (c) reaffirms:
 - (i) the commitment to the MDGs as important benchmarks for the global community to fight poverty, and
 - (ii) that all eight MDGs are achievable with the political will of the global community;
- (d) recognises the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's call to world leaders to attend the MDGs Review Summit in New York in September 2010, and the importance of this global meeting to measure progress and develop a clear action plan to achieve these MDGs within the remaining 5 years; and
- (e) calls on the Government to make clear at the UN Summit, Australia's ongoing commitment to the achievement of the MDGs by 2015.

Question agreed to.

TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Senator MILNE (Tasmania) (3.56 pm)—I move:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Zero Carbon Australia Stationary Energy Plan released by Beyond Zero Emissions and the University of Melbourne shows:
 - (i) that it is technically possible for Australia to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy within a decade, and
 - (ii) that the technologies to achieve this goal, including baseload solar thermal energy with storage, are commercially available today;
- (b) applauds the organisations involved for their vision and efforts; and