

this bill so, I urge you to support its adoption in the Government party room and look forward to the Howard Government's agreement to assist passage.

With those words, I commend the bill once again to the Senate.

I table the explanatory memorandum, and seek leave to continue my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

### CHILD PROTECTION

**Senator MURRAY** (Western Australia) (3.41 pm)—I, and also on behalf of Senator Heffernan, move:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the fundamental human rights and protections contained in the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child, and notes in that regard:
  - (i) the release on 11 October 2006 of the UN Secretary-General's 'Study on violence against children' report, which sheds light on the scale and impact of violence done to children across cultures, classes and ethnic origins,
  - (ii) that the report states that the majority of violence perpetrated on vulnerable children around the world is carried out by people who are part of their daily lives, and
  - (iii) that the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission urges the Federal Government to consider the report's recommendations to counter violence against children;
- (b) having regard to their respective areas of responsibility, calls on the Commonwealth, state and territory governments to invest heavily to protect children in Australia from violence, including:
  - (i) investing in violence prevention programs that address immediate risk factors, such as lack of parent-child attachment, family breakdown, abuse of alcohol and/or drugs, and
  - (ii) developing economic and social policies that address in a substantial way

significant economic and social circumstances such as poverty, income gaps and other forms of inequality that negatively affect children, and

- (c) calls on the governments concerned to keep progress under review through the Council of Australian Governments' processes.

Question agreed to.

### GLOBAL POVERTY AND THE MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**Senator SIEWERT** (Western Australia) (3.42 pm)—by leave—I move the motion as amended:

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that on 18 November and 19 November 2006, the Treasurer (Mr Costello) will host a meeting of the Group of Twenty (G-20) Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors in Melbourne; and
- (b) calls on the Treasurer to ensure that the G-20 meeting discusses making progress toward ending global poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Question agreed to.

### SIEV X

**Senator SIEWERT** (Western Australia) (3.43 pm)—I move:

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Attorney-General, no later than 11 am on 19 October 2006, the three lists held by the Australian Federal Police which detail passengers purported to have boarded the vessel known as SIEV X, those that disembarked the vessel shortly after it commenced its journey and those that survived the tragedy.

Question negatived.

### MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

#### Skills Shortages

**The DEPUTY PRESIDENT**—The President has received a letter from Senator Wong proposing that a definite matter of