

ADDRESS BY  
HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL JEFFERY AC CVO MC  
**GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**  
ON THE OCCASION OF  
**ACCEPTANCE OF THE ADDRESS-IN-REPLY FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA  
17 JUNE 2008

Mr Speaker:

Thank you for your Address in Reply.

It will be my pleasure and my duty to convey to Her Majesty The Queen the message of loyalty from the House of Representatives, to which the address gives expression.

Prime Minister, Mr Speaker, Members of the House of Representatives, Clerk and senior Parliamentary officials

It is a great pleasure for Marlana and me to welcome everyone to Government House on this occasion.

The formal presentation and acceptance of the Address-in-Reply today has an important symbolism.

It reflects a commitment by those with a duty to uphold our Constitution, to the conscientious conduct of our democratic processes.

The democratic freedoms we enjoy in this country and the strength of our democratic institutions are clearly indicated by the diligence and attention to detail with which Members of the Australian Parliament, the Parliamentary officers and the judiciary undertake the important duties with which they have been entrusted by the Australian people.

The presentation of the Address-in-Reply today is a further example of the many instances of meticulous adherence to the spirit and letter of our democratic conventions which I have noted with pleasure in the five years of my term.

Marlana and I thank you for your attendance here today and invite you to enjoy the hospitality of Government House.

Thank you.