



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



THE SENATE

PROOF

MOTIONS

Somphone, Sombath

SPEECH

Wednesday, 26 March 2014

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE

SPEECH

Date Wednesday, 26 March 2014	Source Senate
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Questioner	Responder
Speaker Milne, Sen Christine	Question No.

Senator MILNE (Tasmania—Leader of the Australian Greens) (16:05): I move:

That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) on 15 December 2012, prominent community development and youth education leader Mr Sombath Somphone disappeared in Vientiane, Laos, and

(ii) his whereabouts remain unknown, and statements by the Laotian Government on this case have failed to address concerns of the international community, including those raised by the European Parliament, Amnesty International and successive Secretaries of State in the United States;

(b) expresses deep concern regarding the disappearance, safety and wellbeing of Mr Somphone; and

(c) calls on the Laotian Government to undertake an immediate and credible investigation of Mr Somphone's disappearance, and willingly cooperate with the international community, including the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.

Question agreed to.