KEY TO THE REGISTER

Reports—Reports listed in the register are tabled by Senate committees, Select committees and Joint committees administered by the Department of the Senate.

First established in 1970, Senate Standing committees inquired into both legislation and references of a general nature, to October 1994.

From November 1994 to September 2006, the Senate committee system comprised a pair of standing committees—a Legislation committee and a References committee.

On 11 September 2006 until May 2009, the pair of Legislation and References committees re-combined into one Legislative and General Purpose Standing committee. This committee had all the responsibilities of the previous committees, including the responsibility to meet as estimates committees.

In May 2009, the committees reverted to the structure of paired Legislation and References committees.

Since November 2004 reports of Domestic and Legislative Scrutiny committees have been included.

Evidence tabled—Evidence tabled at the same time, or after, the tabling of a report is indicated by date of tabling. Where entries contain no notation, evidence was not tabled.

Government response—Some entries have a date for the tabling of a government response. Where there is no notation, the government has yet to respond. Where more than one date is listed, the most recent government response is listed first.

Parliamentary Paper number (PP no.)—The number in this column indicates the Parliamentary Paper number assigned to the report and is important for identification purposes. Some reports, such as interim reports or one-page reports, are not given a Parliamentary Paper number. In cases where a report comprises two volumes, two Parliamentary Paper numbers may be given. Access to Parliamentary Papers may be obtained in any State public library or the National Library of Australia by citing the PP no.

Bill inquiries—If a bill is in the House of Representatives when it is referred to a Senate committee, the provisions of the bill are referred to the committee for its consideration. The practice in citing this was altered during 2006, so that the bill title now precedes the advice relating to provisions; (title [Provisions]).

Access to committee reports—Since 1997 all committee reports tabled in the Senate are available on-line, listed under each committee by selecting 'Past inquiries and reports'.

The website also has significant reports tabled prior to 1997 at <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Significant_Reports</u> Print copies of all reports can be obtained from the Senate Table Office, Parliament House, Canberra, telephone (02) 6277 3010.

Other information—For further information contact the office of the Senior Clerk of Committees, Department of the Senate, Parliament House, Canberra at telephone (02) 6277 3555 and e-mail: seniorclerk.committees.sen@aph.gov.au