



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 19 September 2012

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.27 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bill was introduced

- Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 18 September 2012] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]

The following bills were debated

- Marriage Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2012—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Declared Commercial Fishing Activities) Bill 2012 [The Bill will now be assented to]
- Tax Laws Amendment (2012 Measures No. 4) Bill 2012 [The Bill will now be assented to]

Motion agreed to

The Senate debated and agreed to a [motion](#) to vary the hours of meeting and routine of business for 20 September 2012 to enable the Marriage Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2012 to be considered [[first speaker](#)].

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- Human Rights Joint Committee—[3rd report of 2012](#)—Examination of legislation in accordance with the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*: Bills and legislative instruments introduced 10 to 14 September 2012 [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the report]
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 11](#) and [11th report](#) of 2012 [contains assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]

New inquiry

The Senate referred matters relating to the [fresh ginger import risk analysis](#) to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee to report by 29 November 2012.

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate authorised the following meetings to be held while the Senate is sitting:

- Economics Legislation Committee—20 September 2012 from 3.30 pm—private meeting
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—9 October 2012 from 5.30 pm—public meeting—Care of ADF personnel wounded and injured on operations

[Notices of motion](#)

To refer matters to committees

- Detention, treatment and trial of Mr David Hicks—Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—to report by 27 March 2013—notice given by Senator Wright
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Excessive Noise from Wind Farms) Bill 2012—Environment and Communications References Committee—to report by 29 November 2012—notice given by Senators Madigan and Xenophon
- The involuntary or coerced sterilization of people with disabilities in Australia—Community Affairs References Committee—to report by 24 April 2013—[notice](#) given by the Chair of the Community Affairs References Committee (Senator Siewert)

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Community Affairs Legislation and References Committees—9 October and 30 October from 12.30 pm—private meetings

Membership

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to the membership of committees.

Documents

Delegated legislation

See [Disallowance Alert](#) for a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

- [Clerk's documents](#) were tabled [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

The Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research (Senator Evans) tabled a statement relating to an order concerning the Minerals Resource Rent Tax [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [17 September 2012](#)].

Motions defeated

The Senate did not agree to the following orders:

- The Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to table [documents relating to the *Foot Prints in Time* longitudinal study of Indigenous children](#)—no later than 28 September 2012
- The Minister representing the Minister for Health to table [contents of National Health and Medical Research Council files relating to wind turbines](#)—no later than 5.00 pm on 11 October 2012

Notice of motion

Senator Siewert gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to table documents relating to a longitudinal study of Indigenous children—no later than 28 September 2012.

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 3 of 2012-13
- [Government documents](#) [[and considered](#)]

Ministerial statements tabled

The Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research (Senator Evans) tabled ministerial statements about—

- the future of workers' penalty rates and public holidays [a [motion](#) to take note of the statement was agreed to]
- the investment in nuclear medicine and treatment [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the statement]

Other business

[Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—first question](#)
[Matters of public interest debate—first speaker](#)
[Adjournment debate—first speaker](#)

Motions agreed to

- [Dementia Awareness Week](#)—moved by Senators Polley and Brown
- [Domestic violence and employment](#)—moved by Senators Pratt and Moore
- [Migratory birds](#)—moved by Senator Madigan
- [National Family Business Day](#)—moved by Senator Boyce

Motion negated

- [Nationally threatened species and wilderness places](#)—moved by Senator Waters

Matter of public importance discussed

- [Australian Defence Force funding](#)—proposed by Senator Fifield [[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals [see Journals entries [10](#), [24](#) and [36](#)].

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Online

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available at www.aph.gov.au/senate

It is issued by the Senate Table Office as a convenient summary of each day's proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the *Journals of the Senate*.

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Contact details

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