



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 9 October 2012

The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 8.24 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bill considered

The following bill was passed

- Social Security Legislation Amendment (Fair Incentives to Work) Bill 2012 [[first speaker](#) in second reading debate] [The bill will now be assented to]

[Notices of motion](#)

To exempt bills from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings – 14 August to 29 November 2012]

- Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment Bill 2012
- National Portrait Gallery of Australia Bill 2012
National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2012
[\[statements of reasons\]](#) supporting the exemptions of the bills from the cut-off order were tabled]

Message from the House of Representatives

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development) Bill 2012–[Message](#) reporting that the House of Representatives had agreed 2 amendments made by the Senate, disagreed to 11 amendments and made 11 amendments in place of those amendments was considered in committee of the whole.

The Senate is considering a motion moved by the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) not to insist on the amendments disagreed to, and to agree to the further amendments.

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of laws was reported in the Senate.

See **Committees** for details of reports relating to legislation

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- Low Aromatic Fuel Bill 2012–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–Interim and final reports [[final report](#)]
- Military Court of Australia Bill 2012 and a related bill–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
- Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Bill 2012–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–Report and correction [[report](#)]
- Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Further MySuper and Transparency Measures) Bill 2012–Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee [[report](#)]

Other reports

- Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–Detention of Indonesian minors in Australia [[report](#)]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–Management of the Murray-Darling Basin: Second interim report: the Basin Plan [[report](#)]

Government responses tabled

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–Held hostage: Government’s response to kidnappings of Australian citizens overseas [[response](#)]
- National Broadband Network Joint Committee–Third report–Review of the rollout of the National Broadband Network [[response](#)]

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- Economics References Committee–10 October 2012 from 6.00 pm–public meeting–Effects of the global financial crisis on the Australian banking sector
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee–9 October 2012–private meeting
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–9 October 2012 from 1.45 pm–private meeting
- National Broadband Network Joint Committee–9 October 2012 from 6.00 pm–public meeting

[Notices of motion](#)

To refer a matter to a committee

- Allegations of sexual and other abuse in Defence–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–to report by 1 March 2013–notice given by Senator Xenophon

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Economics Legislation Committee–11 October 2012 from 3.30 pm–private meeting
- National Broadband Network Joint Committee–30 October 2012 from 6.00 pm–public meeting
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–28 November 2012 from 11.00 am–private meeting, followed by a private briefing

Membership

A message from the House of Representatives was reported advising that Mr McClelland would replace Mr LDT Ferguson on the Treaties Joint Committee.

Documents

Delegated legislation

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

- A legislative instrument, pursuant to section 198AB of the *Migration Act 1958*, designating a country as a regional processing country was tabled [[homepage](#)] together with information relating to the designation [a [notice of motion](#) was given to approve of the designation of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea as a regional processing country]
- [Clerk's documents](#) were tabled [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]
- The Health Insurance (Extended Medicare Safety Net) Amendment Determination 2012 (No. 1), made under subsection 10B(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* was tabled [[homepage](#)] [a [notice of motion](#) was given to approve the determination]

Orders for the production of documents

Documents tabled

The following documents were tabled in response to orders of the Senate:

- Documents relating to a [longitudinal study of Indigenous children](#) [tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [20 September 2012](#)]
- Information relating to the [provision of services on Nauru for the processing of asylum seekers](#) [tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [17 September 2012](#)]
- Statement relating to the order requiring the tabling of [monthly updates on revenue from the Minerals Resource Rent Tax](#) [tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [11 September 2012](#)]

Notice of motion

Senator Cormann gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Financial Services and Superannuation to table the final report of the Productivity Commission into default superannuation funds in modern awards–no later than noon on 11 October 2012.

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

Letters of advice for various portfolios were tabled [see Journals entries [30](#) and [39](#)] [Lists of appointments made and existing vacancies are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

A letter of advice for the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio was tabled [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Departmental and agency grants

Letters of advice for various portfolios were tabled [see Journals entries [31](#) and [40](#)] [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

A statement of compliance for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents tabled

- [2 petitions](#)
- Auditor-General—[Audit reports nos 5 to 7 of 2012-13](#)
- Government documents [see Journals entries [2](#) and [24](#)] [[and considered](#)]
- Response to a Senate resolution about Dementia Awareness Week—from the President of Alzheimer's Australia (Ms Buttrose, AO, OBE) [resolution agreed to on [19 September 2012](#)] [a motion to take note of the response was [debated](#)]

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- [Political protesters in Burma](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam
- [Wikileaks](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam

Motion negatived

- [Vocational education and training funding](#)—moved by Senator Rhiannon

Matter of public importance discussed

- [Attorney-General](#)—proposed by Senator Brandis [[first speaker](#)]

Statement by President

The President made a [statement](#) relating to the death of Charles Kennedy Comans, CBE, QC, former First Parliamentary Counsel.

Notices of motion

[Notices of motion](#) given today are available in the Senate Journals.

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Online

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

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Related resources

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Contact details

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