



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 2 February 2010

The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 7.42 pm

Legislation

[For bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bill was debated

- National Security Legislation Monitor Bill 2009 [2010]—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Amendment Bill 2009
- Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2009
[These bills will now be assented to]

Notices of motion to introduce private senators' bills

- Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2010—notice given by Senator Xenophon
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Prohibition of Support for Whaling) Bill 2010—notice given by Senator Siewert
- Wild Rivers (Environmental Management) Bill 2010—notice given by Senator Scullion

Bills assented to

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

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

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- ❑ [Health Legislation Amendment](#) (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009 and 2 related bills—Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Other reports

- ❑ Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee—[The impact of mining](#) in the Murray-Darling Basin
- ❑ Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Independent arbitration of [public interest immunity claims](#) [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Security challenges facing Papua New Guinea and the island states of the southwest Pacific—[Interim report](#) [a motion to extend the reporting date to 25 February 2010 was agreed to]
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—[Access to justice](#) [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Australia’s judicial system and the role of judges—[Report](#) and errata [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Natural resource management and conservation challenges—[Interim report](#) and [second interim report](#) [a motion to extend the reporting date to 4 February 2010 was agreed to]
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Rural and regional access to secondary and tertiary education opportunities—[Interim report](#) and [report](#)

Documents tabled

- ❑ 2009 supplement to the consolidated register of Senate committee reports
- ❑ National Broadband Network Select Committee—Third report—Erratum

[Government responses](#)

- ❑ Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee—DEEWR tender process to award employment services contracts
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee—91st report—Treaties tabled on 12 March 2008

Public meeting

The Senate authorised the Electoral Matters Joint Committee to hold a public meeting while the Senate was sitting on 2 February 2010 from 12.30 pm to 2.00 pm for the committee’s inquiry into the policy relating to the New South Wales’ Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Amendment (Automatic Enrolment) Bill 2009.

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- ❑ Australia Post's treatment of injured and ill workers—Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee—to report by 17 March 2010
- ❑ Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment Bill 2009—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 23 February 2010
- ❑ Native Title Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2009—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 23 February 2010

Notices of motion given

To extend reporting deadlines

- ❑ Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee—Sustainable management by the Commonwealth of water resources—to report by 6 May 2010
- ❑ Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities Select Committee—Fourth report—to report by 13 May 2010

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Economics References Committee—4 February 2010 from 5.00 pm—Australian dairy industry

To refer matters to committees

- ❑ Access of small businesses to finance—Economics References Committee—to report by 30 June 2010—notice given by Senator Ronaldson
- ❑ Compensation payouts and reparations to those adversely affected by government policies—Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—to report by 30 September 2010—notice given by Senator Siewert
- ❑ Impact of native vegetation laws and legislated greenhouse gas abatement measures on landholders—Economics References Committee—to report by 30 April 2010—notice given by the Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)

Membership

The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership [see Journals entries [6](#) and [52](#)]

A message from the House of Representatives was reported advising that Mr Debus had been appointed to the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Joint Committee.

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, including Governor-General's Proclamations]

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate [ordered](#) the Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Evans) to table documents relating to the resettlement of the asylum seekers from the *Oceanic Viking*, no later than 2.00 pm on 3 February 2010—moved by Senator Fierravanti-Wells.

Documents tabled

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

- Bilateral Intergovernmental agreements relating to the Fair Work Amendment (State Referrals and Other Measures) Bill 2009 [order agreed to [18 November 2009](#)]
- Data on cataract surgery time [order agreed to [19 November 2009](#)]
- National Preventative Health Taskforce Report—Government response—Statement responding to the resolution of the Senate [order agreed to [26 November 2009](#)]

[Notices of motion](#) given

The following notices of motion were given requiring Ministers to table documents:

- Minister representing the Minister for Trade (Senator Carr) to table information relating to certain landholder agreements—no later than 22 February 2010—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Sherry) to table the final report of the Australia's Future Tax System Review Panel—no later than 9.30 am on 4 February 2010—notice given by the Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

Letters of advice for various portfolios [see Journals entries [39](#) and [46](#)] were tabled [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 grants

Letters of advice for various portfolios [see Journals entries [40](#) and [47](#)] were tabled [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit reports](#) nos 16 to 19 of 2009-10
- [Business of the Senate](#)—1 January to 31 December 2009 [a digest of all business considered by the Senate in 2009]
- Commonwealth Ombudsman—Report for 2008-09 on the Ombudsman's activities under Part V of the *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*
- Government documents [see Journals entries [2](#) and [35](#)] [[and considered](#)]

- Odgers' Australian Senate Practice—[Supplement to the 12th edition](#)—Updates to 31 December 2009
- [Questions on notice summary](#)—12 February 2008 to 31 December 2009

Ministerial statements tabled

The Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Senator Carr) tabled ministerial statements about:

- Afghanistan
- Higher education revolution [a motion to take note of the statement was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]

Other business

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

Motion debated

The Senate did not agree to a motion moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) to suspend standing orders to enable a motion relating to Afghanistan to have precedence over other business. [[first speaker](#)]

Statement by President

The President made a [statement](#) relating to staffing in the Department of the Senate.

Ministerial arrangements

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Evans) and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) informed the Senate of changes to [ministerial](#) and [shadow ministerial](#) arrangements.

Temporary chairs of committees

Warrants were tabled revoking the nomination of Senators Bernardi and Humphries as temporary chairs of committees and nominating Senators Boyce and Cash.

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 on the Internet 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*, on the Internet at <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm>

Related resources

The *Order of Business* (or 'Senate Red') and the *Dynamic Red* (which updates the *Order of Business* throughout the sitting day) are also available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

Contact details

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