



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 4 February 2010

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.23 pm

[The Senate](#) will meet again on 22 February 2010. Senate committees will meet from 8 to 11 February 2010 to consider [2009-10 additional estimates](#).

Legislation

For [bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Prohibition of Support for Whaling) Bill 2010 [private senators' bill]
- ❑ Fairer Private Health Insurance Incentives Bill 2009 [No. 2] [passed by the House of Representatives on 3 February 2010]
- ❑ Fairer Private Health Insurance Incentives (Medicare Levy Surcharge) Bill 2009 [No. 2] [passed by the House of Representatives on 3 February 2010]
- ❑ Fairer Private Health Insurance Incentives (Medicare Levy Surcharge—Fringe Benefits) Bill 2009 [No. 2] [passed by the House of Representatives on 3 February 2010]
- ❑ National Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 [passed by the House of Representatives on 4 February 2010]

The following bill was debated

- ❑ Building and Construction Industry Improvement Amendment (Transition to Fair Work) Bill 2009—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed with amendments

- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Serious and Organised Crime) Bill 2009—6 Government and 10 Opposition [amendments](#) agreed to
- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Serious and Organised Crime) Bill (No. 2) 2009—10 Government [amendments](#) agreed to

- Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment (Re-registration of Providers and Other Measures) Bill 2009—The bill was initially agreed to without amendments, but a motion moved by Senator Parry to recommit the bill was debated [[first speaker](#)] and agreed to. The bill was subsequently agreed to with 1 Opposition and 2 Senator Xenophon/Australian Greens [amendments](#)

[The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate to these bills]

The following bills were passed without amendments

- Health Insurance Amendment (New Zealand Overseas Trained Doctors) Bill 2009
- Higher Education Support Amendment Bill 2009
- Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment Bill 2009
- Statute Law Revision Bill 2009

[These bills will now be assented to]

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Estimates

[Additional information](#) arising from estimates hearings was tabled.

Reports tabled

- Privileges Committee—[143rd report](#)—Persons referred to in the Senate—Vicki Dunstan on behalf of the Church of Scientology [a [motion](#) to adopt the report was agreed to]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—[Natural resource management](#) and conservation challenges [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- Treaties Joint Committee—[108th report](#)—Treaty tabled on 25 November 2009

Documents tabled

- Regulations and Ordinances Committee—
 - Delegated legislation monitor—Disallowable legislative instruments tabled in the Senate in 2009
 - Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation—May 2008 to November 2009

[Government responses](#) tabled

- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—Personal Property Securities (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2009
- National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee—Inquiry into the Immigration Bridge proposal
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—413th report—The efficiency dividend and small agencies: Size does matter
- Treaties Joint Committee—95th report—Treaties tabled on 4 June, 17 June, 25 June and 26 August 2008—Further response

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 1 of 2010](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Sexual Offences Against Children) Bill 2010—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 15 March 2010
- ❑ Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2010—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 30 June 2010

Other references

- ❑ [Compensation payouts](#) to those adversely affected by government policies—Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—to report by 30 September 2010
- ❑ Impact of native vegetation laws, legislated greenhouse gas abatement measures, and certain climate change proposals on landholders—Finance and Public Administration References Committee—to report by 30 April 2010 [see Journals entries nos [14](#) and [21](#)]

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- ❑ Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Joint Committee—
 - 4 February 2010 from 12.30 pm—Operation of the *Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Act 2006*
 - 4 February 2010—Private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- ❑ Community Affairs Legislation Committee—4 February 2010 from 4.00 pm—Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 and related bills
- ❑ Community Affairs References Committee—4 February 2010—Private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)

Notice of motion given

A [notice of motion](#) was given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) to refer matters relating to the Government's response to Australian citizens who are kidnapped and held for ransom overseas to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for report by 13 May 2010.

Membership

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to committee membership.

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]

Notice of intention to withdraw a notice

The Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances gave notice of intention to withdraw a notice to disallow Marine Order No. 4 of 2009 – Part 28 – Operations standards and procedures – Issue 3, made under subsection 425(1AA) of the *Navigation Act 1912* [[homepage](#)].

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

A document relating to bilateral intergovernmental agreements was tabled in respect of paragraph (3) of the order of the Senate agreed to on [18 November 2009](#).

Statement by Minister

The Assistant Treasurer (Senator Sherry) made [a statement](#) relating to the order of the Senate [agreed to on [3 February 2010](#)] requiring the tabling of the final report from Australia's Future Tax System Review Panel—no later than 9.30 am on 4 February 2010. The Minister indicated that the Government would not release the report at this stage. A motion moved by the Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce) to take note of the statement was agreed to [[first speaker](#)].

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 21 of 2009-10
- [A petition](#) and 2 petitioning documents

Documents discussed

Government documents, committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports were discussed

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Climate Change and Water (Senator Wong) tabled a ministerial statement about the National Road Safety Council.

Other business

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

Motion agreed to

- [Whale shark researcher](#), Dr Brad Norman—moved by Senator Siewert

Motions negatived

- [Death of West Papuan activist](#), Mr Viktor Kaisiepo—moved by Senator Hanson-Young
- [Meeting](#) between the President of the United States of America and the Dalai Lama—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- [Safety and welfare](#) of international students—moved by Senator Hanson-Young

Motion debated

- [Cost of living pressures](#)—moved by Senator Parry [[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

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

Statistics

Statistics on the work of the Senate this week will be available in the [Statistical Summary](#), which forms part of [StatsNet](#)—the Department of the Senate’s online statistical collection.

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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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