



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 21 June 2012

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 10.25 pm

New senators

Senators [Thorp](#) and [Whish-Wilson](#) were sworn in as senators to fill vacancies in the representation of Tasmania.

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Appropriation Bill (No. 5) 2011-2012
Appropriation Bill (No. 6) 2011-2012
[passed by the House of Representatives on 20 June 2012]
- Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2012-2013
Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2012-2013
Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2012-2013
[passed by the House of Representatives on 20 June 2012]
- Australian Human Rights Commission Amendment (National Children's Commissioner) Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 21 June 2012]
- Broadcasting Services Amendment (Improved Access to Television Services) Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 20 June 2012]
- Passenger Movement Charge Amendment Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 20 June 2012]
- Tax Laws Amendment (2012 Measures No. 2) Bill 2012
Pay As You Go Withholding Non-compliance Tax Bill 2012
[passed by the House of Representatives on 20 June 2012]

The following bill was debated

- Health Insurance (Dental Services) Bill 2012 [No. 2]—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Maintaining Address) Bill 2011 and a related bill [The bills will now be assented to]

Notices of motion

To exempt a bill from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings – 18 to 28 June 2012]

- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Managed Investment Trust Withholding Tax) Bill 2012

Messages from the House of Representatives reported

- ❑ Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records Bill 2011 and a related bill—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate to the bills [the bills will now be assented to]

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- ❑ Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee—Higher education and skills training to support agriculture and agribusiness in Australia [[report](#)] [a motion to take note of the report was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee—125th report—Treaties tabled on 7 and 28 February 2012 [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]

Government responses tabled

- ❑ Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee—Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission
- ❑ Gambling Reform Joint Select Committee—Interactive and online gambling and gambling advertising and Interactive Gambling and the Broadcasting Amendment (Online Transactions and Other Measures) Bill 2011
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Iraqi wheat debt: Repayments for wheat growers

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 7 of 2012](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- ❑ Government Investment Funds Amendment (Ethical Investments) Bill 2011—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—to report by 22 August 2012
- ❑ Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Bill 2012 and a related bill—Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—to report by 15 August 2012
- ❑ Maritime Powers Bill 2012 and a related bill—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 20 August 2012

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- Australia's Food Processing Sector Select Committee–25 June 2012 from 4.00 pm and 27 June 2012 from 11.30 am–private meetings
- Community Affairs Legislation and References Committees–26 June 2012 from 12.30 pm–private meetings
- Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee–
 - 22 June 2012 from 9.30 am–public meeting
 - 28 June 2012 from 10.00 am–private meeting
- Economics Legislation Committee–22 June 2012 from 2.00 pm–private meeting
- Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee–22 June 2012 from 9.30 am–public meeting–Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment Bill 2012
- Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–21 June 2012 from 1.00 pm–private meeting
- Human Rights Joint Committee–21 June 2012 from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm–public meeting
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–15 August and 22 August 2012 from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm–private meetings, followed by private briefings

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–
 - Management of the Murray-Darling Basin–to report by 12 September 2012
 - Foreign Investment Review Board national interest test–to report by 12 September 2012

Notice of motion to refer a matter to a committee

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne) gave a notice of motion to refer a matter relating to electricity bill increases to the Economics References Committee–to report by 23 August 2012.

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, including Governor-General's Proclamations]

Orders for the production of documents

Notice of motion

Senators Cormann and Johnston gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (Senator Wong) to table correspondence between ASIC and the Financial Ombudsman Service in relation to changes in the terms of reference for the Financial Ombudsman Service—no later than noon on 28 June 2012.

Documents tabled

- [2 petitions](#) and a petitioning document
- [Government documents](#)
- Response to a Senate resolution about Schizophrenia Awareness Week—from Minister for Mental Health and Ageing (Mr Butler) [resolution agreed to on [10 May 2012](#)]

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Finance and Deregulation (Senator Wong) tabled a ministerial statement about homelessness [a [motion](#) to take note of the statement was agreed to].

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- [Human rights dialogue with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam](#)—moved by Senators Boswell and Furner
- [International arms trade](#)—moved by Senators Hanson-Young and Moore
- [Legal assistance services](#)—moved by Senator Wright
- [Provision of consular services to Mr Julian Assange](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam

Motions negated

- [Fossil fuel subsidies](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne)
- [Gun laws](#)—moved by Senators Rhiannon and Wright

Motion debated

- [Carbon pricing](#)—moved by Senator Cormann [[first speaker](#)]

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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Contact details

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