



Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 28 February 2011

The Senate met from 10.00 am until 10.22 pm

Legislation

[For bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (Public Health and Safety) Amendment Bill 2010 [private member's bill—passed by the House of Representatives on 10 February 2011]
- ❑ National Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 22 February 2011]
- ❑ Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 24 February 2011]
- ❑ Statute Law Revision Bill (No. 2) 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 24 February 2011]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Temporary Flood and Cyclone Reconstruction Levy) Bill 2011 and a related bill [passed by the House of Representatives on 24 February 2011] [These bills were also exempted from the cut-off order to enable consideration in this period of sittings]

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Temporary Flood and Cyclone Reconstruction Levy) Bill 2011 and a related bill—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Telecommunications Interception and Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2010—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

Message from the House of Representatives

Agreeing to the following bills without amendment

- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2010 [2011]
 - ❑ Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Amendment Bill 2010 [2011]
- [These bills will now be assented to]

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- Economics References Committee–Decision of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on the proposed acquisition of Franklins by Metcash Trading Limited–[Final report](#)
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–420th Report–Annual report 2009-10
- Public Works Joint Committee–[1st report of 2011](#)–Referrals made in October and November 2010
- Scrutiny of New Taxes Select Committee–The student amenities fee – Another tax by another name [[report](#)]

[Government responses tabled](#)

- Economics Legislation Committee–Tax Laws Amendment (Public Benefit Test) Bill 2010
- Environment Communications and the Arts Committee–The reporting of sports news and the emergence of digital media
- Finance and Public Administration Committee–Residential and community aged care in Australia
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–The effectiveness of Airservices Australia’s management of aircraft noise

Public meetings

The Senate authorised the following committees to hold public meetings during the sitting of the Senate on 28 February 2011:

- Parliamentary Budget Office Joint Select Committee–from 8.00 pm till 9.45 pm
- Treaties Joint Committee–from 10.00 am till noon

[Notices of motion given](#)

To extend reporting deadlines

- Community Affairs References Committee–Planning options and services for people ageing with a disability–to report by 18 April 2011
- Rural Affairs and Transport References Committee–Pilot safety, including consideration of the Transport Safety Investigation Amendment (Incident Reports) Bill 2010–to report by 4 May 2011

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee–
 - 2 March 2011 from 5.00 pm–Public meeting
 - 3 and 24 March 2011–Private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- Cyber Safety Joint Committee–3 March 2011 from 9.30 am–Public meeting

- ❑ Electoral Matters Joint Committee—2 March 2011 from 9.30 till 11.00 am—Conduct of the 2010 Federal Election and matters related thereto
- ❑ Gambling Reform Joint Committee—1 March 2011 from 4.00 pm—Private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—3 March 2011 from 4.45 pm—Australian Law Reform Commission

To refer matters to committees

- ❑ [Superannuation claims](#) of former and current Commonwealth Public Service employees—Finance and Public Administration References Committee—to report by 30 June 2011—notice given by Senator Xenophon

Membership

The Senate appointed Senator Siewert in place of Senator Ludlam on the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for the committee's inquiry into the Patent Amendment (Human Genes and Biological Materials) Bill 2010 and appointed Senator Ludlam as a participating member.

A message from the House of Representatives was reported advising of the appointment of members to the Parliamentary Budget Office Joint Select 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]

Notices of motion withdrawn

[Notices of motion](#) to disallow certain instruments were withdrawn.

Orders for the production of documents

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

Letters of advice for various portfolios [see Journals entries [29](#) and [41](#)] 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 contracts published on the Internet

Letters of advice for various portfolios [see Journals entries [28](#) and [40](#)] were 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 [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

Health Insurance—Anti-competitive practices

A report by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on anti-competitive and other practices by health funds and providers in relation to private health insurance was tabled [The report was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [25 March 1999](#) on the motion of Senator Harradine and amended on [18 September 2002](#)]

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

A statement of compliance for the National Archives of Australia was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents tabled

- ❑ Auditor-General—Audit reports nos 28 to 31 of 2010-11 [see Journals entries nos [27](#) and [32](#)]
- ❑ Australian parliamentary delegation—31st ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, Vietnam, 19 to 25 September 2010—Report
- ❑ [Government document](#)
- ❑ Message of condolence relating to the Queensland floods from the President of the Senate of the Philippines (Senator the Honourable Juan Ponce Enrile)
- ❑ [2 petitions](#)

Ministerial statements tabled

The Parliamentary Secretary for Defence (Senator Feeney) tabled ministerial statements about:

- ❑ The Australian Government's response to the Egypt crisis
- ❑ The situation in Libya

Other business

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

Motion agreed to

- ❑ [Infrastructure insurance arrangements](#)—moved by Senator Milne

Motion negated

- ❑ [Oil supplies](#)—moved by Senator Milne

Censure motion

The Senate did not agree to a [motion](#) moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Abetz) to censure the Government [[first speaker](#)].

Matter of public importance discussed

- ❑ [Proposed carbon tax](#)—proposed by Senator Fifield [[first speaker](#)]

Death of former member

The President informed the Senate of the death on 21 February 2011 of Dr Richard (Dick) Emanuel Klugman, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Prospect from 1969 to 1990.

Ministerial arrangements

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Evans) informed the Senate of changes to the [Gillard Ministry](#).

Address-in-reply

The Senate agreed to present the address-in-reply to the Governor-General on 1 March 2011.

Notices of motion

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

* * * * *

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

Inquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 6277 3021
e-mail: sds@aph.gov.au