



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 23 February 2010

The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 8.18 pm

Legislation

[For bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following private senator's bill was introduced

- ❑ Wild Rivers (Environmental Management) Bill 2010 [No. 2] [private senator's bill]

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Fairer Private Health Insurance Incentives (Medicare Levy Surcharge) Bill 2009 [No. 2] and the Fairer Private Health Insurance Incentives (Medicare Levy Surcharge—Fringe Benefits) Bill 2009 [No. 2]—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

To introduce a private senator's bill

- ❑ Renewable Energy—Electricity (Water Heaters and Phantom Certificates) Bill 2010—notice given by Senator Milne

To exempt bills from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- ❑ Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Bill 2010 and 10 related bills—notice given by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig)

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—Review of Auditor-General’s reports—
 - 10 and 17 March 2010 from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm
 - 11 March 2010 from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Community Affairs References Committee—
 - Impact of gene patents on the provision of healthcare in Australia—to report by 17 June 2010
 - Hearing health in Australia—to report by 13 May 2010
 - Suicide in Australia—to report by 24 June 2010
- Economics Legislation Committee—Tax Laws Amendment (Confidentiality of Taxpayer Information) Bill 2009—to report by 11 March 2010

Notices of motion given

To vary the resolution appointing a committee

- Fuel and Energy Select Committee—[notice given](#) by Senator Cormann

To extend reporting deadlines

- Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Plain Tobacco Packaging (Removing Branding from Cigarette Packs) Bill 2009—to report by 26 August 2010
- Economics Legislation Committee—Trade Practices Amendment (Material Lessening of Competition—Richmond Amendment) Bill 2009—to report by 13 May 2010
- Economics References Committee—Australian dairy industry—to report by 18 March 2010

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Community Affairs Legislation Committee—25 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
- Economics Legislation Committee—25 February 2010 from 7.15 pm—Safe Climate (Energy Efficient Non-Residential Buildings Scheme) Bill 2009 and the Tax Laws Amendment (Confidentiality of Taxpayer Information) Bill 2009

To refer matters to committees

- Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Bill 2010 and 10 related bills—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 11 May 2010—[notice given](#) by Senator Abetz

- Toxicity of the George River in north-east Tasmania—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—to report by 17 June 2010—[notice given](#) by Senator Milne and the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Documents

Delegated legislation

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

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate [ordered](#) that documents relating to the Education Services for Overseas Students Assurance Fund be tabled by 12.00 pm on 24 February 2010.

Documents tabled

- [Government documents](#) [[and considered](#)]

Ministerial statements

The Minister for Defence (Senator Faulkner) made a [statement](#) about civilian casualties in Afghanistan [statements were made in relation to the matter – [first speaker](#)] and the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig) made a [statement](#) on Australia's National Archives [a motion to take note of the statement was debated – [first speaker](#)].

Other business

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

[Adjournment debate—first speaker](#)

Motion negatived

The Senate did not agree to a motion moved by Senator Siewert about the [170th anniversary](#) of the signing of the Waitangi Treaty.

Censure motion

A [motion](#) moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) to censure the Government was debated, amended and agreed to. [[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

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

