

# **PART ONE**

**1 January 2010–30 June 2010**



**Legislative and General Purpose  
Standing Committees  
administered by the  
Senate Committee Office**



## **Community Affairs**

## Community Affairs

1 January 2010 - 30 June 2010

	Matters current as at 1 January 2010	Matters referred during period *	Reports tabled that discharge a reference **	Current inquiries as at 30 June 2010
Legislation	5	13	11 +(1)	6
References	5	1	2	4
Total	10	14	13 +(1)	10

Number and Hours of Meeting										
	Public	Hrs	Public Estimates	Hrs	Private	Hrs	Insp/Other	Hrs	Total Meetings	Total Hours
Legislation	13	48:13	8	75:09	17	3:32	0	0:00	38	126:54
References	18	83:48	0	0:00	10	5:11	0	0:00	28	88:59
Total	31	132:01	8	75:09	27	8:43	0	0:00	66	215:53

Meetings By State								
	ACT	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	QLD
Legislation	35	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
References	16	1	1	1	2	3	3	1
Total	51	1	1	1	2	3	6	1

		Witnesses			Hansard Pages					
	Televised Hearings	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General	No of Submissions	No Of Pages	Government Responses
Legislation	19	848	208	0	932	646	0	345	3147	0
References	8	0	0	231	0	0	1468	171	1958	3
Total	27	848	208	231	932	646	1468	516	5105	3

\* Includes referral of Annual reports x 1; referral of estimates x 2

\*\* Includes 1 report that discharged 2 references

# Community Affairs (Legislation)

*1 January 2010 to 30 June 2010*

## Method of appointment

Pursuant to amended Senate Standing Order 25.

### Current members

*Date of appointment*

Senator Claire Moore (QLD, ALP) <i>(elected Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) <i>(elected Deputy Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator Judith Adams (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Sue Boyce (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Carol Brown (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Furner (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09

### Participating members

*Date of appointment*

Senator the Hon Eric Abetz (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Chris Back (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Guy Barnett (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Cory Bernardi (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Catryna Bilyk (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Simon Birmingham (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Bishop (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon George Brandis (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Bob Brown (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator David Bushby (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Doug Cameron (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Michaelia Cash (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Jacinta Collins (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Helen Coonan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mathias Cormann (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Alan Eggleston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Don Farrell (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator David Feeney (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Fielding (VIC, FFP)	14.05.09
Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mitch Fifield (VIC, LP)	14.05.09

Senator Mary Jo Fisher (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Michael Forshaw (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young (SA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gary Humphries (ACT, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Annette Hurley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Hutchins (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon David Johnston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Barnaby Joyce (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Kroger (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator Kate Lundy (ACT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gavin Marshall (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Brett Mason (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Julian McGauran (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Jan McLucas (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Christine Milne (TAS, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nicholas Minchin (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Kerry O'Brien (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Stephen Parry (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Marise Payne (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Polley (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Louise Pratt (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ryan (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion (NT, CLP)	14.05.09
Senator Glenn Sterle (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Russell Trood (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Nick Xenophon (SA, IND)	14.05.09

**Former participating member**

*Term of appointment*

Senator Carol Brown (TAS, ALP)	02.02.10–10.03.10
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## **Former substitute members**

## *Term of appointment*

Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP) <sup>1</sup>	02.02.10–10.03.10
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP) <sup>2</sup>	22.10.09–23.10.09
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP) <sup>3</sup>	10.02.10–12.02.10
Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion (NT, CLP) <sup>4</sup>	04.06.10–04.06.10
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP) <sup>5</sup>	21.10.09–21.10.09

## **Inquiries**

*As at 1 January 2010*

- Poker Machine (Reduced Losses—Interim Measures) Bill 2009 and Protecting Problem Gamblers Bill 2009 (referred 19 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009, Midwife Professional Indemnity (Run-off Cover Support Payment) Bill 2009 and Midwife Professional Indemnity (Commonwealth Contribution) Scheme Bill 2009, together with the Government amendments to the bills circulated on 28 October 2009 and any related matter (referred 23 November 2009)
- Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling—Palm Oil) Bill 2009 (referred 26 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Plain Tobacco Packaging (Removing Branding from Cigarette Packs) Bill 2009 (referred 26 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 [Provisions] and the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2009 Measures) Bill 2009 [Provisions] along with the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 [Provisions] (referred 26 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

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<sup>1</sup> Replaced Senator Carol Brown for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 and related bills

<sup>2</sup> Replaced Senator Furner for the consideration of the 2009–10 supplementary Budget estimates on 22 October and 23 October 2009

<sup>3</sup> Replaced Senator Carol Brown for the committee's consideration of the 2009–10 additional estimates from 10 February to 12 February 2010

<sup>4</sup> Replaced Senator Boyce for the consideration of the 2010–11 Budget estimates on 4 June 2010

<sup>5</sup> Replaced Senator Furner for the consideration of the 2009–10 supplementary Budget estimates on 21 October 2009

## **Current inquiries**

*As at 30 June 2010*

- Poker Machine (Reduced Losses—Interim Measures) Bill 2009 and Protecting Problem Gamblers Bill 2009 (referred 19 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling—Palm Oil) Bill 2009 (referred 26 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Plain Tobacco Packaging (Removing Branding from Cigarette Packs) Bill 2009 (referred 26 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Responsible Takeaway Alcohol Hours Bill 2010 (referred 13 May 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 16 June 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- National Health and Hospitals Network Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 24 June 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

## **New references**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 24 February 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 [Provisions] and the Healthcare Identifiers (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 24 February 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Health Practitioner Regulation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 25 February 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Exposure draft of legislation implementing the Government's announced paid parental leave scheme (referred 18 March 2010, upon its release by the Government)
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 13 May 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Paid Parental Leave Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 13 May 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Responsible Takeaway Alcohol Hours Bill 2010 (referred 13 May 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Child Support and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 26 May 2010)

- National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 16 June 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- National Health and Hospitals Network Bill 2010 [Provisions] (referred 24 June 2010—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

## **Public hearings**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 [Provisions] and the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2009 Measures) Bill 2009 [Provisions] along with the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 [Provisions]—4, 11, 22, 25 & 26 February 2010, Canberra; 15 February 2010, Darwin; 17 February 2010, Alice Springs
- 2009–10 Additional Estimates—10, 11 & 12 February 2010, Canberra
- Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 [Provisions] and Healthcare Identifiers (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 [Provisions]—9 and 10 March 2010, Canberra
- Health Practitioner Regulation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 [Provisions]—30 April 2010, Canberra
- Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010 [Provisions]—30 April 2010, Canberra
- Exposure draft of the Paid Parental Leave Scheme Bill 2010—14 May 2010, Canberra; 19 May 2010, Canberra
- 2010–11 Budget Estimates—31 May 2010 and 1 to 4 June 2010, Canberra

## **Reports tabled**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009, Midwife Professional Indemnity (Commonwealth Contribution) Scheme Bill 2009 and Midwife Professional Indemnity (Run-off Cover Support Payment) Bill 2009 (presented out of session on 1 February 2010; tabled 2 February 2010)
- Additional estimates 2009–10 (tabled 25 February 2010)
- Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 [Provisions] and the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2009 Measures) Bill 2009 [Provisions] along with the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 [Provisions] (tabled 10 March 2010)

- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2010) (tabled 11 March 2010)
- Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 [Provisions] and Healthcare Identifiers (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (tabled 15 March 2010)
- Health Practitioner Regulation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (tabled 12 May 2010)
- Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (tabled 12 May 2010)
- Exposure draft and Paid Parental Leave Bill 2010 [Provisions] (presented out of session on 3 June 2010; tabled 15 June 2010)
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2010 [Provisions] (tabled 15 June 2010)
- Child Support and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2010 [Provisions] (tabled 15 June 2010)
- Budget estimates 2010–11 (tabled 23 June 2010)

### **Government responses**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- Nil

### **Estimates**

A statistical summary of this Committee's work when considering Estimates appears in Part Four.

# Community Affairs (References)

*1 January 2010 to 30 June 2010*

## Method of appointment

Pursuant to amended Senate Standing Order 25.

## Current members

*Date of appointment*

Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) <i>(elected Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator Claire Moore (QLD, ALP) <i>(elected Deputy Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator Judith Adams (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Sue Boyce (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Carol Brown (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Helen Coonan (NSW, LP)	02.02.10

## Participating members

*Date of appointment*

Senator the Hon Eric Abetz (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Chris Back (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Guy Barnett (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Cory Bernardi (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Catryna Bilyk (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Simon Birmingham (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Bishop (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon George Brandis (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Bob Brown (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator David Bushby (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Doug Cameron (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Michaelia Cash (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Jacinta Collins (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Mathias Cormann (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Alan Eggleston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Don Farrell (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator David Feeney (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Fielding (VIC, FFP)	14.05.09
Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mitch Fifield (VIC, LP)	14.05.09

Senator Mary Jo Fisher (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Michael Forshaw (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Furner (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young (SA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gary Humphries (ACT, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Annette Hurley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Hutchins (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon David Johnston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Barnaby Joyce (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Kroger (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator Kate Lundy (ACT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gavin Marshall (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Brett Mason (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Julian McGauran (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Jan McLucas (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Christine Milne (TAS, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nicholas Minchin (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Kerry O'Brien (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Stephen Parry (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Marise Payne (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Polley (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Louise Pratt (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ryan (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion (NT, CLP)	14.05.09
Senator Glenn Sterle (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Russell Trood (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	02.02.10
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Nick Xenophon (SA, IND)	14.05.09

### **Former member**

*Term of appointment*

Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09–02.02.10
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### **Former participating member**

*Term of appointment*

Senator the Hon Helen Coonan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09–02.02.10
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## **Former substitute members**

## *Term of appointment*

Senator Don Farrell (SA, ALP)<sup>1</sup>  
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP)<sup>2</sup>

17.03.09–25.06.09  
10.02.10–12.02.10

## **Inquiries**

*As at 1 January 2010*

- Impact of gene patents on the provision of healthcare in Australia (referred 11 November 2008; re-referred by committee 13 May 2009)
- Hearing health in Australia (referred 10 September 2009)
- Impact of suicide on the Australian community (referred 10 September 2009)
- Consumer access to pharmaceutical benefits and the creation of new therapeutic groups through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) (referred 25 November 2009)
- Access to planning options and services for people ageing with a disability (referred 25 November 2009)

## **Current inquiries**

*As at 30 June 2010*

- Impact of gene patents on the provision of healthcare in Australia (referred 11 November 2008; re-referred by committee 13 May 2009)
- Consumer access to pharmaceutical benefits and the creation of new therapeutic groups through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) (referred 25 November 2009)
- Access to planning options and services for people ageing with a disability (referred 25 November 2009)
- The prevalence of interactive and online gambling in Australia (referred 24 June 2010)

## **New references**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- The prevalence of interactive and online gambling in Australia (referred 24 June 2010)

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<sup>1</sup> Replaced Senator Bilyk for the committee's inquiry into the implementation of recommendations of committee reports on child migration and Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children.

<sup>2</sup> Replaced Senator Carol Brown from 10 February to 12 February 2010

## **Public hearings**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- Hearing health in Australia—16 February 2010, Darwin; 18 February 2010, Alice Springs; 19 March 2010, Canberra
- Suicide in Australia—1, 24 and 25 March 2010, Canberra; 2 March 2010, Brisbane; 3 March 2010, Sydney; 4 March 2010, Melbourne; 30 and 31 March 2010, Perth; 4 May 2010, Adelaide; 17 May 2010, Darwin; 18 May 2010, Canberra; 20 May 2010, Hobart
- Consumer access to Pharmaceutical Benefits—7 May 2010, Canberra
- Gene Patents—18 May 2010, Canberra; 15 June 2010, Canberra

## **Reports tabled**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- Hear Us: Inquiry into Hearing Health in Australia (tabled 13 May 2010)
- The Hidden Toll: Suicide in Australia (tabled 24 June 2010)

## **Government responses**

*1 January 2010–30 June 2010*

- Highway to health: better access for rural, regional and remote patients (tabled 25 February 2010; report tabled 20 September 2007)
- Beyond petrol sniffing: Renewing hope for Indigenous communities (tabled 22 June 2010; report tabled 20 June 2006); and Grasping the opportunity of Opal: Assessing the impact of the Petrol Sniffing Strategy (tabled 22 June 2010; report tabled 19 March 2009)