

Senate Daily Summary

Thursday 5 December 2002

The Senate met from 9.30am until 8.11pm

Legislation

[For full text of bills and other associated documents click here](#) 

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- ❑ Charter of the United Nations Amendment Bill 2002
- ❑ Commonwealth Volunteers Protection Bill 2002
- ❑ Crimes Legislation Enhancement Bill 2002
- ❑ National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits–Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]
- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002

The following bill was considered

- ❑ Telecommunications Competition Bill 2002–second reading agreed to

Urgent bill passed with amendments

- ❑ [Research Involving Embryos Bill 2002](#)–2 [amendments](#) moved by Senator Barnett agreed to; 1 amendment moved by Senators Stott Despoja and McLucas agreed to, 1 amendment moved by Senator Murphy agreed to (and see *Senate Daily Summary* [4 December](#) 2002, [3 December](#) 2002, [2 December](#) 2002 and [14 November](#) 2002) [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

The following bills were passed

Without amendments

[These bills will now be assented to]

- ❑ Charter of the United Nations Amendment Bill 2002
- ❑ International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002
- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002
- ❑ Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment Bill 2002

With amendments

- ❑ Taxation Laws Amendment (Structured Settlements) Bill 2002–61 Government amendments agreed to, 1 Opposition amendment agreed to, 1 Australian Democrat amendment agreed to and 2 items omitted [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments made by the Senate](#)]



The following messages from the House of Representatives were reported

- ❑ Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill (No. 2) 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives requested the Senate to reconsider the bill in its original form. The Senate will consider the message from the House on a future sitting day.
- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (Professional Services Review and Other Matters) Bill 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives had made the amendment requested by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

Notice of motion given to exempt bills from certain provisions of standing order 111 [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- ❑ Taxation Laws Amendment (Venture Capital) Bill 2002
- ❑ Venture Capital Bill 2002

See the **Committees** section for details of reports relating to legislation

Delegated legislation

For a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes) [click here](#) 

Notice of intention given to withdraw a notice

A notice of intention was given by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances to withdraw a notice to disallow the Public Service Amendment Regulations 2002 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2002 No. 214 and made under the *Public Service Act 1999*

Committees

For scheduled public committee hearings [click here](#) 
For committee reports [click here](#) 

Report tabled

- ❑ The value of water: Inquiry into Australia's management of urban water—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Membership

The Senate agreed that Senator Stott Despoja be discharged from the Treaties Joint Committee and that Senator Moore replace Senator Wong for the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee inquiries into the role of libraries, and the Australian telecommunications network on Friday 6 December 2002

Reporting dates

- The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:
- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment (Liability for Recreational Services) Bill 2002—Economics Legislation Committee—10 December 2002
 - ❑ Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—10 December 2002

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions without debate about:

- ❑ [Journalism award to Ms Natalie O'Brien](#) for reporting of the 'Children Overboard' incident—moved by Senator Cook
- ❑ Parliamentary zone—The Senate agreed to a [proposal](#) relating to the construction of additional security elements, including vehicular access gates and bollards, to prevent access to the Ministerial entry by unauthorised vehicles—moved by the Minister for Arts and Sport
- ❑ [Water conservation](#)—moved by Senator Brown

An [urgency motion](#) moved by Senator Brown about the Prime Minister's comments on pre-emptive military action was agreed to

Orders for the production of documents

Statement by Minister and documents tabled

The Minister for Defence made a [statement](#) and tabled documents relating to the [order](#) for production of documents of the Senate of 3 December 2002 relating to judicial and related offices' remuneration

Documents

- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ No government documents were tabled
- ❑ Travel advice for East Timor—Advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website

Petitions

No petitions were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ The President made a [statement](#) and tabled a document regarding water usage at Parliament House
- ❑ The Special Minister of State made a personal [explanation](#) relating to an interjection recorded in *Hansard* on 2 December 2002
- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ Government documents, committee reports and government responses were discussed
- ❑ Adjournment debate

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The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate
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