

Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday 10 December 2002

The Senate met from 2.00pm until 11.10pm

Hours and days of meeting

- The Senate agreed to vary the [hours of meeting](#) of the Senate for 10 and 11 December 2002
- The Leader of the Australian Democrats gave notice of a [motion](#) noting the number of scheduled sitting days in 2002 and 2003 and proposing that the Senate meet for two additional weeks in 2003

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- Aviation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002
- Copyright Amendment (Parallel Importation) Bill 2002

The following bill was considered

- Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002—[committee of the whole](#) commenced (8 Opposition amendments agreed to, 2 Government amendments agreed to, 2 sections omitted, 15 Opposition amendments to be determined)

The following bills were passed

Without amendments or requests

[These bills will now be assented to]

- Medical Indemnity Bill 2002
- Medical Indemnity (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2002
- Medical Indemnity (Enhanced UMP Indemnity) Contribution Bill 2002
- Medical Indemnity (IBNR Indemnity) Contribution Bill 2002

Bills exempted from the cut-off order

A [number of bills](#) were exempted from provisions of standing order 111 [to enable consideration this period of sittings]



Notices of motion given

To introduce bills

- ❑ Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2002–Notice of motion given by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer
- ❑ Public Interest Disclosure (Protection of Whistleblowers) Bill 2002–Notice of motion given by Senator Murray [Private senator's bill]

To restore a bill to the Notice Paper

- ❑ Uranium Mining in or near Asutrialan World Heritage Properties (Prohibition) Bill 1998–Notice of motion given by Senator Allison [to enable consideration to be resumed at the stage reached in the last session of Parliament]

To exempt a bill from certain provisions of standing order 111 [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- ❑ Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of bills was reported in the Senate

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 [▶](#)

See the **Documents** section for details of instruments tabled

Committees

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

For committee reports click here [▶](#)

Reports tabled

- ❑ Education of students with disabilities–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee
- ❑ Privileges Committee–[110th Report](#) (report adopted and a reply from a person adversely commented on in the Senate was included in [Hansard](#))
- ❑ Register of senators' interests incorporating current statements of interests, including new statements of interests, and notification of alterations of interests lodged between 25 June 2002 and 5 December 2002–Senators' Interests Committee
- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment (Liability for Recreational Services) Bill 2002–Economics Legislation Committee
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee–[50th Report](#)–Treaties tabled 15 October 2002

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following change to committee membership:

- ❑ Superannuation Select Committee–Discharged: Senator Hogg; Appointed: Senator Wong

New inquiry

The Senate agreed to the following new inquiry:

- ❑ An examination of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy, with particular reference to the forthcoming Foreign Affairs and Trade Policy White Paper, *Advancing the National Interest*, and [related matters](#)—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—to report by 14 May 2003

Reporting dates

The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:

- ❑ Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002—Economics Legislation Committee—12 December 2002
- ❑ Recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service—Finance and Public Administration References Committee—27 March 2003
- ❑ Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—11 December 2002

Notices of motion given

To hold a public meeting when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—11 December 2002 from 4pm to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into rural water resource usage

To extend reporting deadlines

- ❑ Administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J*—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—last sitting day in June 2003
- ❑ Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—last sitting day in June 2003
- ❑ Import risk assessment on New Zealand apples—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—last sitting day in June 2003
- ❑ Small business employment—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—6 February 2003
- ❑ Refusal of the Government to respond to the order of the Senate of 21 August 2002 for the production of documents relating to financial information concerning higher education institutions—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—6 March 2003

To refer a matter to a committee

- ❑ The implications of evolving employment and retirement trends for the superannuation and social security systems, in the context of the ageing and longer life expectancies of the Australian population identified in the *Intergenerational Report*, and [related matters](#)—Superannuation Select Committee—to report by the last sitting day in 2003

To determine the powers and proceedings of a committee

- ❑ Australian Crime Commission Joint Committee—that, with effect from 1 January 2003, matters relating to the powers of this committee shall be as set out in the [resolution of 14 February 2002](#) relating to the powers and proceedings of the National Crime Authority Joint Committee

To determine the schedule of estimates hearings by legislation committees for 2003

- The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer gave notice of a motion to determine the [schedule of estimates hearings](#) by legislation committees for 2003, and their reporting dates

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions without debate about:

- The [continued incarceration](#) of Mr David Hicks and Mr Mamdouh Habib at Guantanamo Bay—moved by Senator Nettle
- The establishment of an [independent judicial inquiry](#) into all aspects of the People Smuggling Disruption Program and calling on the government to implement all recommendations contained in the Certain Maritime Incident Select Committee report—moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, the Leader of the Australian Democrats and Senators Harradine, Murphy, Brown and Nettle

Motions defeated

The following motions were defeated:

- [Albury bypass](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- [International Human Rights Day](#)—moved by Senator Nettle
- [Long-distance trucking industry](#)—moved by Senator Allison

Notices of motion

[For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here](#) 

Orders for the production of documents

Motions agreed to

- The Senate [ordered](#) the tabling of all documents relating to inquiries undertaken by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet into the possible conflict of interest between the ministerial responsibilities of the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer and the commercial activities of Endispute Pty Ltd (no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on 12 December 2002)—moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
- The Senate [ordered](#) the tabling of the agreement signed by the Commonwealth for the Walla Weir Irrigation Project and any materials relating to compliance with the terms of the agreement (no later than 4pm on 12 December 2002)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats
- The Senate [ordered](#) the tabling of all materials prepared by Geoscience Australia in response to the proposal by TGS-NOPEC to conduct seismic testing in the Townsville Trough (no later than 4pm on 12 December 2002)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats

Notices of motion given

- ❑ To require the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation to table all documents relating to [question on notice no. 404](#) and subsequent related questions on logging activities in Tasmania (no later than noon on 12 December 2002)–Senator Brown
- ❑ [Calling on the](#) Government to comply with the [order](#) of the Senate of 16 October 2002 concerning the tabling of documents relating to the Government’s consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy (no later than 5pm on 11 December 2002)–Senator O’Brien

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ Auditor-General–Report No. 20 of 2002-03–Performance audit–Employee entitlements support schemes–Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
- ❑ Auditor-General–Independent Auditor (KPMG)–Performance audit–Contract management arrangements within the Australian National Audit Office
- ❑ [Clerk’s documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ [Government documents](#)

Petitions

[3 petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ 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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