



# Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday 15 October 2003

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.30pm

## Legislation

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

### No bills were introduced in the Senate

#### The following bills were considered

- ❑ Offshore Petroleum (Safety Levies) Bill 2003—second reading agreed to and committee of the whole commenced
- ❑ Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Amendment Bill 2003—second reading agreed to and committee of the whole commenced—(1 Green amendment and 2 Democrat amendments to the Green amendment [to be determined](#))
- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment (Personal Injuries and Death) Bill 2003—second reading debate continued

#### The following bill was passed

##### *Without amendments*

- ❑ Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2003 [This bill will now be assented to]

#### The following message from the House of Representatives was reported

- ❑ Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 7) 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives had [disagreed](#) to the [amendments](#) made by the Senate [The Senate will reconsider the amendments disagreed to by the House on a future sitting day]

#### The following message from the House of Representatives was considered

- ❑ Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003—The [message](#) reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to [amendment](#) no. 27 made by the Senate [Debate on a motion that the Senate not insist on the amendment disagreed by the House will continue on a future sitting day]

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](#)

### Notices of motion given

Notices of motion were given to disallow the following delegated legislation:

- ❑ Child Disability Assessment Amendment Determination 2003, made under section 38D of the *Social Security Act 1991*–15 sitting days after 15 October 2003–by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances
- ❑ Inclusion of Species in the List of Threatened Species, made under section 178 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*–15 sitting days after 15 October 2003–by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances

## Committees

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

[For committee reports click here](#)

### Reports tabled

- ❑ Order for production of documents on university finances–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee
- ❑ Public Works Joint Committee–11th report of 2003–RAAF Base Richmond reinvestment project, Richmond NSW
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee–[12th report](#) of 2003 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- ❑ Selection of Bills Committee–[Report No. 13](#) of 2003 (tabled and adopted) [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

### New inquiries

#### *Message from the House of Representatives reported*

A message from the House of Representatives was reported advising that the Intelligence Services Amendment Bill 2003 had been referred to the ASIO, ASIS and DSD Joint Committee

*See the **Reports tabled** section (Selection of Bills Committee Report) for details of bills referred to committees*

### Public meeting

The Senate agreed that the following public meeting may be held while the Senate is sitting:

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee–27 October 2003 from 7.30pm–Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Agents Integrity Measures) Bill 2003 and the Migration Agents Registration Application Charge Amendment Bill 2003

### Reporting date

The Senate agreed to the following extension of time for a committee to report:

- ❑ Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 29 October 2003

### **Notice of motion given**

#### *To refer a matter to a committee*

- Management of the quarantine risks associated with the return of the sheep stranded aboard the MV *Cormo Express* and related matters—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by the last sitting day in November 2003

### **Motions agreed to**

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- [Chief Scientist](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- [Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty](#)—moved by Senator Bartlett
- [First atomic bomb test](#)—50<sup>th</sup> anniversary—moved by Senator Wong
- [Human rights](#)—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- [Sammaki children](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- [Science Meets Parliament](#)—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- [SIEV-X](#)—People Smuggling Disruption Program—moved by Senator Brown
- [Sport programs](#) and National Rugby League Grand Final—moved by Senator Mackay

### **Notices of motion**

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

### **Orders for the production of documents**

#### *Notices of motion given*

Senator Brown gave a notice of motion to require the Minister for the Environment and Heritage to table any assessment made since 1996 in preparation for, or consideration of, a world heritage nomination for the Sydney Opera House (no later than 3pm on 27 October 2003)

Senator Nettle gave a notice of motion to require the Minister representing the Minister for Trade to table documents detailing the results of the independent environmental and social audit of the Sepon Mine project in Laos, conducted by Graham A Brown and Associates and provided to the Export Finance Insurance Corporation (no later than 30 October 2003)

#### *Statements by Ministers and documents tabled*

The Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation made a statement and [tabled documents](#) relating to the voyage of the MV *Cormo Express*. The Minister [indicated](#) that another Master's report may be provided if ministerial approval is given.

The Special Minister of State made a statement and tabled [certain documents](#) relating to the proposed Australia-United States free trade agreement and the regulation of labelling of genetically-modified foods in Australia and/or the United States. The Minister [indicated](#) that the government is claiming public interest immunity for other documents required by the order.

## Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ [Government documents](#)
- ❑ [Parliamentary zone](#)—documentation relating to the Forecourt scoria restoration, Parliament House. A notice of motion was also given to approve the proposal.
- ❑ World Trade Organization Ministerial Council—Response to the Senate resolution (agreed to [16 September 2003](#)) from the Chief of Staff to the Minister for Trade
- ❑ [6 petitions](#) were received

## Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Matters of public interest debate
- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ Matter of public importance discussion about economic growth in Australia—proposed by [Senator George Campbell](#)
- ❑ Government documents were discussed
- ❑ Adjournment debate

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Enquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 6277 3209  
e-mail: [sue.blunden@aph.gov.au](mailto:sue.blunden@aph.gov.au)

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