



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday 1 April 2004

The Senate met from 9.30am until 8.21pm

The Senate has now completed its Autumn sittings and will commence the winter sittings on [11 May 2004](#)

New senator sworn in

[Senator Mitch Fifield](#) (Liberal Party, Victoria) [was sworn in](#) to fill the casual vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Alston

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- ❑ Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Representation in the House of Representatives) Bill 2004 [and *see* Bills Passed]
- ❑ Law and Justice Legislation Amendment Bill 2004

The following bills were passed

Without amendments

- ❑ Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2003-2004
- ❑ Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2003-2004
- ❑ Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 2) 2003-2004
- ❑ Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Representation in the House of Representatives) Bill 2004
- ❑ Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003
- ❑ Dairy Produce Amendment Bill 2003
- ❑ Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2003
- ❑ Intelligence Services Amendment Bill 2004
- ❑ Kyoto Protocol Ratification Bill 2003 [No. 2]
- ❑ Taxation Laws (Clearing and Settlement Facility Support) Bill 2003
- ❑ Textile, Clothing and Footwear Strategic Investment Program Amendment Bill 2004

With amendments

- ❑ Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003–3 Government, 2 Opposition and 5 Democrat [amendments](#) agreed to and 3 items omitted [The House of Representatives agreed to three amendments made by the Senate and disagreed to 10 amendments. [The Senate did not insist](#) on its amendments to which the House had disagreed. The bill will now be assented to.]
- ❑ Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Family Law) Bill 2002–[11 Government amendments](#) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- ❑ Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2004–3 Government [amendments](#) agreed to and 6 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

- ❑ Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme Bill 2003–The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the [amendments made by the Senate](#) [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002–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]
- ❑ Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Bill 2003–The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the [amendments made by the Senate](#) [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Military Rehabilitation and Compensation (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2003–The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the [amendments made by the Senate](#) [The bill will now be assented to]

The following messages from the House of Representatives were considered

- ❑ Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003–The message reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to the [amendments made by the Senate](#) and had made amendments in place of those amendments. The Senate did not insist on its amendments to which the House had disagreed and agreed to the amendments made by the House in place of those amendments, with amendments (3 Opposition amendments to 3 House amendments). [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments made by the Senate](#) to three House amendments]
- ❑ Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Extension of Time Limits) Bill 2003–The message reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to the [amendments made by the Senate](#). The Senate did not insist on its amendments to which the House had disagreed. [The bill will now be assented to]

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:

- Excise Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 27 and made under the *Excise Act 1901–15* sitting days after 1 April 2004—by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, who made [a statement](#) relating to the notice
- Temporary Order No. 4 of 2003, made under subsection 43(8) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991–15* sitting days after 1 April 2004—by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, who made [a statement](#) relating to the notice

See the **Documents** section for details of instruments [*Clerk's documents*] tabled

Committees

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

[For committee reports click here](#)

Estimates

Additional information

- Budget estimates 2003-04 (Supplementary)—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee
- Budget estimates 2003-04 (Supplementary)—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Reports tabled

- Additional estimates 2003-04—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
- Privileges Committee—118th Report—Joint meetings of the Senate and the House of Representatives on 23 and 24 October 2003
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—399th report—Inquiry into the management and integrity of electronic information in the Commonwealth
- Publications Committee—[16th Report](#) [report adopted]

Membership

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to committee membership

New inquiry

Reference of a bill

- Tourism Australia Bill 2004—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 13 May 2004

Presiding officers' response to committee report tabled

- Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea and the island states of the south-west Pacific—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Reporting dates

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

- Effectiveness of the Australian military justice system—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—to report by 5 August 2004
- Treasury Legislation Amendment (Professional Standards) Bill 2003—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 12 May 2004

Establishment of a new committee

The Senate agreed to establish the [Select Committee on the Lindeberg Grievance](#) on whether any false or misleading evidence was given to the Select Committee on Public Interest Whistleblowing, the Select Committee on Unresolved Whistleblower Cases or the Committee of Privileges in respect of matters considered in its 63rd and 71st reports and related matters—to report by 5 October 2004

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- Death of [Sir Rupert Hamer](#), AC, KCMG—moved by Senator Allison
- [Endangered species](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- [National Day of Action](#) for Seniors—moved by Senator Allison
- [Parliament House Art Collection](#)—moved by Senator Ridgeway
- [Parliamentary zone](#)—to approve the design and content of the proposed Centenary of Women's Suffrage commemorative fountain at the Old Parliament House gardens
- [Tax status](#) of certain public benevolent institutions—moved by Senator Cherry

Motion defeated

A [motion](#) moved by Senator Brown on endangered species in Tasmanian forests was defeated

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 Minister representing the Attorney-General to table certain documents relating to the Government's response to the United Nations Human Rights Committee finding on 6 August 2003 in the case of *Young v. Australia* (no later than 5pm on 15 June 2004)—moved by Senator Greig

The Senate [ordered](#) the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs to table certain documents relating to the exercise of ministerial discretion under sections 351 and 417 of the *Migration Act 1958* (no later than 5pm on 12 May 2004)—moved by Senator Ludwig

Documents tabled and statement by Minister

- [Ethanol and production subsidy](#)—tabled by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation [in response to an order of the Senate agreed to on [16 October 2002](#)—moved by Senator O’Brien]
- [Genetically modified organisms](#)—tabled by the Minister for Justice and Customs made [in response to an order of the Senate agreed to on [30 March 2004](#)—moved by Senator Cherry]. The Minister also made a [statement](#) about the documents tabled.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- [Clerk’s documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]

No petitions were received

No government documents were tabled

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- [Advance to the Finance Minister](#) 2002-03 was approved
- The President made a [statement](#) about unparliamentary language
- Adjournment debate

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The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate
Enquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 6277 3209
e-mail: sue.blunden@aph.gov.au

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