



# Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday 8 December 2004

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.28pm

## Legislation

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

### The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- ❑ Australian Sports Commission Amendment Bill 2004
- ❑ Criminal Code Amendment (Trafficking in Persons Offences) Bill 2004
- ❑ Customs Amendment Bill 2004
- ❑ James Hardie (Investigations and Proceedings) Bill 2004
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Retirement Villages) Bill 2004

### The following bill was considered

- ❑ James Hardie (Investigations and Proceedings) Bill 2004—second reading debate continued [The Democrats moved a [second reading amendment](#) to the bill expressing a view about the bill's policy]

### The following bills were passed with amendments

- ❑ Customs Amendment Bill 2004—2 Opposition [amendments](#) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill as amended]
- ❑ National Water Commission Bill 2004—1 Democrat [amendment](#) (amended by 1 Government amendment) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendment made by the Senate]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Retirement Villages) Bill 2004—3 Opposition [amendments](#) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

### The following messages from the House of Representatives were considered [These bills will now be assented to]

- ❑ Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Amendment Bill 2004—The message reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to the [amendments](#) made by the Senate. The Senate agreed not to insist on its amendments.
- ❑ National Security Information (Criminal Proceedings) Bill 2004—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the bill with [amendments](#). The Senate agreed to the amendments made by the House of Representatives.

- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Superannuation Reporting) Bill 2004—The message reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to the [amendments](#) made by the Senate. The Senate agreed not to insist on its amendments.

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

- ❑ National Security Information (Criminal Proceedings) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2004—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the bill without amendments [The bill will now be assented to]

**The following bill was exempted from the cut-off order** [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- ❑ Customs Amendment Bill 2004

**Notices of motion given**

*To restore a bill to the Notice Paper* [to enable consideration of the bill to be resumed at the stage reached in the previous Parliament]

- ❑ Flags Amendment (Eureka Flag) Bill 2004—Notice of motion given by Senator Marshall

*To introduce a bill*

- ❑ Senate Voters' Choice (Preference Allocation) Bill 2004—Notice of motion given by Senator Brown

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 [Clerk's documents] tabled

**Committees**

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

For committee reports [click here](#)

**Reports tabled**

- ❑ Appropriations and Staffing Committee—41st report—Security funding; Appropriation bills: Payments to international organisations [The Senate adopted the committee's recommendations relating to security funding, and Appropriation Bills and payments to international organisations]
- ❑ Disability Discrimination Amendment (Education Standards) Bill 2004—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
- ❑ Public Works Committee—Several [reports](#)
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest](#) No. 12 of 2004 and [12th report](#) of 2004 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- ❑ Selection of Bills Committee—[Report](#) No. 14 of 2004 [report adopted] [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

- Turning back the tide–The invasive species challenge: Report on the regulation, control and management of invasive species and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

### **Documents tabled**

- Australian forest plantations: A review of *Plantations for Australia: The 2020 vision*–corrigenda
- Senators' Interests Committee–Register of Senate senior executive officers' interests, lodged between 19 June and 6 December 2004
- Senators' Interests Committee–Register of senators' interests, lodged between 19 June and 6 December 2004

### **Membership**

The Senate agreed to the following change to committee membership:

- Finance and Public Administration References Committee–Senator McLucas appointed as a participating member

### **New inquiries**

The Senate agreed to the following new inquiries:

- Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004 and the Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004 and [related matters](#)–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee–to report by 10 March 2005
- Australia's economic and political relationship with China and [related matters](#)–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–to report by 15 September 2005
- Compensation arrangements for wheat growers after the writing-off of the Iraqi wheat debt and [related matters](#)–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 16 June 2005

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

### **Inquiries of the previous parliament**

The Senate agreed to adopt [reports](#) of three committees concerning matters referred in the previous parliament:

- Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee
  - Proposed amendment to Schedule 1B of the Workplace Relations Act [re-adoption deferred until the first meeting of the committee in February]
- Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee
  - Student income support [*inquiry re-adopted*–to report by 16 June 2005]
  - Life-long learning inquiry [consideration of the re-adoption of the inquiry deferred until the first meeting of the committee in the new year]
  - Indigenous employment and training [re-adoption deferred until at least the end of 2005]

- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee
  - Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's Energy White Paper [*inquiry re-adopted*, together with the power to use records of the committee of the previous parliament]

### Notices of motion given

*To hold a private meeting when the Senate is sitting*

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—9 February 2005 from 4pm to 6pm—administration of Biosecurity Australia concerning the revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand

*To refer a bill to a committee*

- Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee—to report by 14 March 2005

## Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- [Ansett](#)—Employee entitlements—moved by Senator Allison
- [Colombia](#)—Ingrid Betancourt and Clara Rojas—moved by Senator Brown
- [Mr John Bulunbulun](#)—Red Ochre Award—moved by Senator Ridgeway

## Notices of motion

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

## Orders for the production of documents

*Document tabled*

- Anti-competitive and other practices by health funds and providers—Report by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission for the period 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 [Senate order [agreed to](#) 25 March 1999]

## Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- [Clerk's document](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- Commonwealth Ombudsman—Report for 2003-04 on the Ombudsman's activities in monitoring controlled operations conducted by the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Federal Police
- [Government documents](#)
- [A petition](#) was received

<b>Also in the Senate yesterday</b>
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- ❑ Matters of public interest debate [link to [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ Adjournment debate [link to [first speaker](#)]

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