



# Senate Daily Summary

Thursday 25 March 2004

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.09pm

## Legislation

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

### No bills were introduced in the Senate

#### The following bills were considered

- ❑ Customs Tariff Amendment (Greater Sunrise) Bill 2004—committee of the whole continued
- ❑ Dairy Produce Amendment Bill 2003—second reading debate agreed to and committee of the whole commenced
- ❑ Greater Sunrise Unitisation Agreement Implementation Bill 2004—committee of the whole continued (1 Green [amendment](#) to be determined)

#### The following bill was passed

*Without amendments*

- ❑ Privacy Amendment Bill 2004 [This bill will now be assented to]

#### The following messages from the House of Representatives were reported

[These bills will now be assented to]

- ❑ Australian Crime Commission Amendment Bill 2003 [2004]—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the bill without amendments
- ❑ Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Agents Integrity Measures) Bill 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the [amendments](#) made by the Senate

#### Assent to laws

[Assent](#) to a number of laws 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 [Clerk's documents] tabled

## Committees

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

For committee reports [click here](#)

### Reports tabled

- Additional estimates 2003-04—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee
- Kyoto Protocol Ratification Bill 2003 [No. 2]—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee

### New inquiry

- Scrutiny of Bills Committee Fourth Report of 2000: Entry and Search Provisions in Commonwealth Legislation—Government responses to [matters raised](#)—Scrutiny of Bills Committee—to report by first sitting day in March 2005

### Document tabled

- Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, July 2003 to February 2004—Regulations and Ordinances Standing Committee

### Government response to committee report tabled

- Territory representation: Inquiry into increasing the minimum representation of the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory in the House of Representatives—Electoral Matters Joint Committee

### Statement

The Chair of the National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee made [a statement](#) about the committee's examination of draft amendment 39 to the National Capital Plan

### Membership

The Senate agreed to the following changes to committee membership:

- Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Discharged: Senator Hutchins; Appointed: Senator McLucas
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Discharged: Senator Cook; Appointed: Senator Hutchins

### Notice of motion given

*To extend a reporting deadline*

- Capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance—Legal and Constitutional References Committee—to report by 11 May 2004

## Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- [Burma](#)–Human rights–moved by Senator Ridgeway
- [Optional Protocol](#) to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment–moved by Senator Brown
- [Parliamentary zone](#)–to approve the proposal by the Department of Parliamentary Services to extend the approval for temporary vehicle barriers around Parliament House–moved by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Senator Bartlett also made [a statement](#) about the motion.

## Motion debated

The Senate debated a motion moved by Senator Faulkner about politicisation of the public service by the Howard Government ([Senator Lundy](#) was the first speaker on the debate)

## Ministerial statement

The Minister for Defence tabled a ministerial statement by the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations and Findings of the Interim Building and Construction Industry about the Royal Commission into the building and construction industry

## Notices of motion

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

## Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General–Audit report no. 36 for 2003-04–Performance audit–The Commonwealth’s administration of the dairy industry adjustment package: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Australia; Dairy Adjustment Authority
- Australian parliamentary delegation–Report–Syria, Lebanon and Israel, 9 to 21 November 2003
- [Clerk’s documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]

No petitions were received

No government documents were tabled

<b>Also in the Senate yesterday</b>
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- ❑ 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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