# Senate Daily Summary

## Wednesday 5 October 2005

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.40pm

### Legislation

For full text of bills and other associated documents

#### No bills were introduced in the Senate

#### The following bill was considered

□ Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Bill 2005–second reading debate continued

#### The following bill was passed

With amendments

□ Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2005–2 Government <u>amendments agreed to</u> [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill as amended]

# The following message from the House of Representatives was reported

□ Defence Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005–The message reported that the House of Representatives agreed to the bill without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]

#### Bills assented to

Assent to a number of laws was reported in the Senate

See Committees for details of reports relating to legislation

## **Delegated legislation**

For a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

#### Notice of motion given

A notice of motion was given by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances to disallow the Health Insurance (Allied Health and Dental Services) Determination 2005, made under subsection 3C(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* [If the notice is not determined or withdrawn within 15 sitting days after 5 October 2005–ie. by 6 December 2005–the determination will be deemed to be disallowed]

#### Notice of intention given to withdraw notice

A notice of intention was given by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances to withdraw a notice to disallow the Maritime Transport Security Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 115 and made under the *Maritime Transport Security Act 2003* 

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

#### Committees

For scheduled <u>public committee hearings</u>
For committee reports

#### **Estimates**

Additional information tabled

□ Economics Legislation Committee–Budget estimates 2005-06

#### Reports tabled

- □ Possible failure by a senator to comply with the Senate's resolution relating to registration of interests—Committee of Privileges—123rd report [A motion to endorse the finding at paragraph 1.25 was debated. The debate will continue on a future sitting day.]
- □ Procedure Committee–First report of 2005–Storage of Senate documents; Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings
- □ Scrutiny of Bills Committee—<u>Alert Digest No. 12</u> of 2005 and <u>11th report</u> of 2005 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- □ Selection of Bills Committee—Report No. 11 of 2005 [report adopted] [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

#### **New inquiry**

Petrol sniffing in Indigenous communities, and related matters—Community
 Affairs References Committee—to report by 9 November 2005

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

#### Membership

The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership

#### Reporting dates extended

- □ Economic impact of salinity in the Australian environment–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee– to report by the second sitting day of 2006
- Possible links between household debt, demand for imported goods and Australia's current account deficit—Economics References Committee—to report by 13 October 2005
- □ Student Assistance Legislation Amendment Bill 2005–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee–to report by 13 October 2005

#### Notices of motion given

To extend a reporting deadline

□ Administration of the Migration Act–Legal and Constitutional References Committee–to report by 1 December 2005

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#### To refer matters to committees

- □ Australia's future oil supply, and related matters—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—to report by the last sitting day in March 2006
- Overtime and shift allowances—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—to report by 25 November 2005
- □ Scott Parkin–all matters relating to his arrest and deportation–Legal and Constitutional References Committee–no reporting date

## Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- 2005 Nobel Prize winners Professor Barry J Marshall and Dr J Robin Warren moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- Petrol sniffing in Indigenous communities—moved by Senator Scullion [and see Committees—New inquiry]

#### Ministerial statement

The Minister for Defence made <u>a statement</u> relating to the Australian Defence Force military justice system and tabled <u>various documents</u>

#### **Motions defeated**

The Senate *did not agree* to motions about:

- Commonwealth superannuants—indexation of pensions—moved by Senator Allison
- Gunns Pty Ltd-proposed pulp mill-Tamar Valley, Tasmania-moved by Senator Milne

#### Motion debated

The Senate debated <u>a motion</u> moved by Senator O'Brien about illegal fishers in Australia's northern waters [debated as a matter of public importance–link to <u>first speaker</u>]

## Questions on notice-failure to provide answers

<u>Senator Allison asked</u> the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson) for an explanation of answers not being provided to questions on notice nos 907 and 908. The minister was not present in the chamber. <u>The Senate agreed</u> to take note of the minister's failure to provide either an answer or an explanation.

#### **Notices of motion**

For other <u>notices of motion</u> not mentioned elsewhere

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## Orders for the production of documents

#### Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet Statements of compliance for two agencies were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies required to be tabled twice yearly; Senate order agreed to]

#### **Documents**

The following documents were tabled:

- □ Auditor-General—Audit reports nos 10 and 11 of 2005-06
- □ Australian National Audit Office–Report for 2004-05
- □ <u>Clerk's documents</u> [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ☐ Government documents [see *Journals* items 2 and 29][and considered]
- □ 2 petitions were received

## Also in the Senate yesterday

- ☐ Matters of public interest debate [first speaker]
- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time [first question]
- □ Adjournment debate [first speaker]

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