



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday 16 March 2005

The Senate met from 9.30pm until 7.48pm

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- Consular Privileges and Immunities Amendment Bill 2005
- Crimes Legislation Amendment (Telecommunications Interception and Other Measures) Bill 2005
- Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill 2005
- Family Law Amendment Bill 2005
- National Security Information Legislation Amendment Bill 2005
- Statute Law Revision Bill 2005

The following bills were considered

Second reading debate continued on the following bills

- Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 2) 2004-2005
- Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2004-2005
- Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2004-2005

The following bills were passed

Without amendments

[These bills will now be assented to]

- Datacasting Charge (Imposition) Amendment Bill 2004
- Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2004
- Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
- Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
- Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
- Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 7) Bill 2005
- Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Amendment Bill 2004
- Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Amendment Bill 2004
- Television Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2004

With amendments

[The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate

- Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004—
6 Democrat, 2 Opposition [amendments](#), and 1 Democrats/Opposition [amendment](#), agreed to

- Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004–2 Democrat [amendments](#) agreed to

The following message from the House of Representatives was considered

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Amendment Bill 2005–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 [The bill will now be assented to]

Notice of motion given to introduce a bill

- Fisheries Legislation Amendment (International Obligations and Other Matters) Bill 2005–Notice of motion given by the Minister for Justice and Customs

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](#)

Estimates

Report tabled

- Additional estimates 2004–05–Economics Legislation Committee

Reports tabled

- Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee
- Indigenous education funding–Interim report–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee
- [Public Works Committee](#)–68th annual report and 1st report of 2005
- [Reports on annual reports](#)–No. 1 of 2005–Seven legislation committees
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee–[Alert Digest No. 3](#) of 2005 and [3rd report](#) of 2005 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- Selection of Bills Committee–[Report No. 3](#) of 2005 [report adopted]
- Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005–Economics Legislation Committee

Documents tabled

- Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 7) Bill 2004–Report–Economics Legislation Committee–Additional information

New inquiry

- Wine-making—Operation of the industry, with particular reference to the supply and purchase of grapes—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—to report by the last sitting day in March 2006

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

Reporting dates

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

- Annual reports tabled by 31 October 2004—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—to report by 10 May 2005
- Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee—to report by 10 May 2005

Notices of motion given

To hold public meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Australian Crime Commission Joint Committee—17 March 2005 from 6pm—Australian Crime Commission annual report 2003-04
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—17 March 2005 from 4pm to 6.30pm—Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005

To refer matters to committees

- Bird flu, including virus strain H5N1 and related matters—Community Affairs References Committee—to report by 16 June 2005
- Privileges—Whether, and if so what, acts of unauthorised disclosure of parliamentary committee proceedings, evidence or draft reports should continue to be included among prohibited acts which may be treated by the Senate as contempts—Privileges Committee—to report by 15 June 2005
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal Reform) Bill 2004—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—to report by 14 June 2005 [for inquiry and report as part of the committee's current inquiry into unfair dismissal laws]

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- [Nam Theun 2 Dam](#)—Laos—moved by Senator Nettle
- [Symphony orchestras](#)—Funding—moved by Senators Brown and Carr

Motions defeated

The Senate *did not agree* to the following motions:

- [Falun Gong](#) practitioners—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- [Uranium mining](#) in Australia—moved by Senator Allison

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

[The Senate ordered](#) the tabling of certain documents from certain agencies relating to glyphosate, herbicide-tolerant genetically-engineered plants, Fusarium, and genetically-engineered canola trials (no later than the conclusion of question time on 11 May 2005)—moved by Senator Bartlett

Notices of motion given

- Senator Carr gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training to table two outcome documents prepared by the Social Research Centre Pty Ltd about apprenticeships (no later than 3.30pm on 17 March 2005)
- Senator Carr gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training to table a letter from the Department of Education, Science and Training to the Australian Council of Deans of Education about the National Priority Funding for Teacher Education (no later than 3.30pm on 17 March 2005)

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet

Statements of compliance for [various 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:

- [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- [Government documents](#) [tabled and considered]
- [5 petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Matters of public interest debate [link to [first speaker](#)]
- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- The President made [a statement](#) about the Parliamentary Library
- Adjournment debate [link to [first speaker](#)]

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