



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 8 February 2007

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.37pm

[The Senate](#) will meet again on 26 February 2007.

Additional estimates 2006-07

The Senate referred additional estimates 2006-07 to standing committees for examination and report and relevant documents were tabled. [For Budget Papers, Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements and related papers, [click here](#)]

The Senate also agreed to [modify](#) the committee groupings and portfolio allocations for estimates hearings.

A [program](#) for the estimates hearings on 12 to 16 February 2007 has been published.

Legislation

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

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Australian Territories Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2007 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment Bill 2006 [passed by the House of Representatives on 7 February 2007]
- ❑ Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Statements of Principles and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [passed by the House of Representatives on 7 February 2007]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Australian Securities and Investments Commission Amendment (Audit Inspection) Bill 2006 [This bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Customs Tariff Amendment (Incorporation of Proposals) Bill 2006 [This bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Marking of Plastic Explosives) Bill 2006 [This bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Statute Law Revision Bill (No. 2) 2006 [2007] [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]

- Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 6) Bill 2006 [This bill will now be assented to]

See **Committees** for details of reports relating to legislation

Delegated legislation

See [Disallowance Alert](#) for a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

Motion to disallow defeated

The Senate *did not agree* to a motion proposed by Senator Siewert which would have disallowed an [instrument](#) that determines the Australian national catch allocation for southern bluefin tuna for the 2006/2007 season. [[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion withdrawn

The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances withdrew notices of motion to disallow the following instruments:

- [regulations](#) to amend the A New Tax System (Commonwealth-State Financial Arrangements) Regulations 2003 by extending the years for transitional GST assistance to 30 June 2009
- [determination](#) providing guidelines for the exercise of the power to give public interest certificates for the purposes of paragraph 208(1)(a) of the Social Security (Administration) Act 1999 by the Secretary of the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

See **Documents** for details of instruments [[Clerk's documents](#)] tabled

Committees

For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

Estimates

Additional information arising from estimates hearings was tabled

- Community Affairs Committee—budget estimates 2006-07
- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee—supplementary budget estimates 2006-07
- Finance and Public Administration Committee—budget and supplementary budget estimates 2006-07
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—supplementary budget estimates 2006-07
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee—supplementary budget estimates 2006-07

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation were tabled as follows:

- [Bankruptcy](#) Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2006—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

- [Customs](#) Legislation Amendment (Augmenting Offshore Powers and Other Measures) Bill 2006—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
- [Non-Proliferation](#) Legislation Amendment Bill 2006—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee

Other reports were tabled as follows:

- Community Affairs Committee—[Funding and operation](#) of the Commonwealth-State/Territory Disability Agreement

Documents tabled

- Administration of Indigenous Affairs—Former Select Committee—Additional information
- Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund Account—Former Joint Committee—Additional information
- Regulations and Ordinances Standing Committee —[Delegated legislation monitor](#)—Disallowable legislative instruments tabled in the Senate in 2006

Establishment of committee

The Senate agreed to [establish](#) the Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity.

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee reports

The Senate adopted reports [1](#) and [2](#) of 2007 of the Selection of Bills Committee, and referred the following:

- Aged Care Amendment (Security and Protection) Bill 2007—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 14 March 2007
- AusCheck Bill 2006—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report by 14 March 2007
- Human Services (Enhanced Service Delivery) Bill 2007—Finance and Public Administration Committee—to report by 15 March 2007
- Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 7) Bill 2006—Economics Committee—to report by 27 February 2007

Other references

The Senate referred [matters](#) relating to the current level of academic standards of school education to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee for report by 15 August 2007.

Proposed reference

The Senate *did not agree* to refer [matters](#) relating to the impact of the proposed dam on the Mary River at Traveston Crossing in Queensland to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee. [[First speaker](#)]:

Meetings during Senate sittings

The Senate authorised various committees to meet while the Senate is sitting. [*see* Journals entries nos [18](#) and [19](#)]

Membership

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

Other debates and motions

The Senate *did not agree* to motions about:

- ❑ [Accountability and transparency](#) in government operations—moved by Senator Murray
- ❑ [Coal exports](#)—moved by Senator Nettle
- ❑ [Legal recognition](#) of same-sex relationships in the Australian Capital Territory—moved by Senator Nettle
- ❑ [Macquarie Marshes](#) and water allocation—moved by Senator Nettle
- ❑ [Mobile phones and health](#)—moved by Senator Allison
- ❑ [Mr David Hicks](#)—moved by Senator Nettle
- ❑ [Oil depletion protocol](#)—moved by Senator Milne

The Senate debated a motion about human activity and climate change which was moved by Senator Wong. [[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Notice of motion given

Senator Siewert gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources to table any briefing packages produced by the Department of Environment and Heritage relating to the Hope Downs Iron Ore Project.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 25 of 2006-07
- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]
- ❑ [3 petitions](#)

Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time [[first question](#)]
- ❑ Government documents, committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports were discussed
- ❑ Adjournment debate [[first speaker](#)]

Statistics

Statistics on the work of the Senate this week will be available in the [Statistical Summary](#), which forms part of [StatsNet](#)—the Department of the Senate's online statistical collection.

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Online

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

It is issued by the Senate Table Office as a convenient summary of each day's proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the *Journals of the Senate*, on the Internet at <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm>

Related resources

The *Order of Business* (or 'Senate Red') and the *Dynamic Red* (which updates the *Order of Business* throughout the sitting day) are also available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

Contact details

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