

Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 10 September 2007

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 10.30pm

Senators

The President announced the resignation on 29 August 2007 of Senator Paul Calvert. <u>Senator David Bushby</u> was sworn in as a Senator for Tasmania to fill the vacancy.

Legislation

Bills and related documents available on BillsNet <www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm>

Bills considered

The following bill was introduced

□ Federal Magistrates Amendment (Disability and Death Benefits) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 9 August 2007]

The following bill was debated

□ Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Protecting Services for Rural and Regional Australia into the Future) Bill 2007–Second reading agreed to and bill debated in committee of the whole. Third reading debate commenced

The following bill was passed

□ Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Testing) Bill 2007— 2 Government amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

Notices of motion

To vary the hours of meeting

A <u>notice</u> was given by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz) to vary the hours of meeting for 11 September 2007 to allow the Government's legislative program to be considered.

To introduce bills

- □ Northern Territory National Emergency Response Amendment (Alcohol) Bill 2007–notice given by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz)
- □ Workplace Relations (Guaranteeing Paid Maternity Leave) Amendment Bill 2007–notice given by Senator Stott Despoja [private senator's bill]

To exempt a bill from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

□ Northern Territory National Emergency Response Amendment (Alcohol) Bill 2007–notice given by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz)

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

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

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

Committees

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

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- □ Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Democratic Plebiscites) Bill 2007–Finance and Public Administration Committee–Interim report and report
- □ Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2007–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–Interim report and report
- □ <u>Health Insurance</u> Amendment (Medicare Dental Services) Bill 2007–Community Affairs Committee
- □ Higher Education Endowment Fund Bill 2007 and a related bill—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee—Interim report and report
- □ Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment (Cape York Measures) Bill 2007–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee–<u>Interim</u> report and report
- <u>National Greenhouse</u> and Energy Reporting Bill 2007–Environment,
 Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee
- □ Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 5) Bill 2007–Economics Committee– Interim report and report

□ <u>Trade Practices</u> Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2007–Economics Committee

Other reports

- □ Economics Committee–Private equity investment in Australia–Report and revised additional comments
- □ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–Reforms to Australia's military justice system: Third progress report
- □ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings

Documents tabled

□ Northern Territory National Emergency Response Bill 2007 and 4 related bills— Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—Additional information

Government responses tabled

Government responses to the following reports were tabled

- Corporations and Financial Services Joint committee—Timeshare: The price of leisure
- □ Intelligence and Security Joint Committee–Review of administration and expenditure: Australian intelligence organisations–Number 4: Recruitment and training

Notices of motion given

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting:

- □ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–13 September 2007 from 4.00pm–Australia's involvement in international peacekeeping operations
- □ Public Works Joint Committee–13 September 2007 from 9.30am to 11.45am–refurbishment of staff apartments at the Australian embassy complex in Tokyo, Japan

To refer a matter to a committee:

 Australia-Russia Nuclear Cooperation Agreement—Treaties Joint Committee—to report by 3 December 2007

Membership

The Senate agreed to <u>various changes</u> to committee membership.

Documents

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 <u>various agencies</u> were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are <u>required to be tabled</u> twice a year]

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

Statements of compliance for <u>various agencies</u> were tabled [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies are <u>required to be tabled</u> twice a year]

Unproclaimed legislation

A document was tabled showing details of unproclaimed Acts, together with a statement of reasons for non-proclamation and a timetable for their operation [Standing order 139(2) requires tabling before 31 August each year]

Documents tabled

- □ <u>Clerk's documents</u> [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]
- Government documents
- Response to a Senate <u>resolution</u> about the report of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee entitled Unfinished business: Indigenous stolen wages—from the Premier of Western Australia (Mr Carpenter) [resolution agreed to on 21 June 2007]
- □ 2 petitions

Other business

Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—<u>first question</u> Adjournment debate—first speaker

Motions negatived

- □ Rights of Indigenous Peoples—moved by Senator Bartlett [debated as a matter of urgency—<u>first speaker</u>]
- Synthetic greenhouse gas emissions—moved by Senator Milne
- □ <u>Taxpayer support</u> of proposed pulp mill—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals.

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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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